Fiscal year 2013-14 was another eventful year for the George Mason University Libraries. From the addition of priceless collections such as C-SPAN's organizational archives, the David and Ann Stone Gilbert and Sullivan collection, and the John Locke antiquarian books, to the introduction of the innovative “One Button” recording studio and brand new Mason Publishing program, the University Libraries made great strides in its mission. Such accomplishments help to redefine the student learning experience and enriches faculty pursuits on the George Mason campuses.

While many peer academic libraries measure their accomplishments over a century or more, in a few decades Mason Libraries has risen to one of the leading academic research libraries in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area and in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Today our print and electronic library collections are of the breath and depth that truly define us as a research-level library, while our innovative services and programs support educational, research, and service activities across the university. Notably, the Libraries' extensive digital resources and associated online services are accessed an average of nine times every second by virtual Mason and other users around the world, as measured by "hits."

But, the library as a physical place is still very vital for the success of Mason. On the pages that follow, you will see the significant capital investment made for the major expansion of the university central library—Fenwick Library. In addition to Fenwick's continuing construction, you will see evidence of the individual projects, academic collaborations, and landmark programmatic initiatives that solidly position the University Libraries as an innovative, academic enterprise ever ready to serve the university and larger community. You will also see the ingenuity, professionalism, and dedication of the library faculty and staff who provide service, expertise, and guidance that our students and faculty require for their academic and scholarly success.

To the university administration, faculty, staff, alumni, and generous donors who have played a key role in our progress to date, I extend my sincere thanks. We look forward to your continued partnership.

John G. Zenelis
Research and Write-Ins
Focused on student success, the Gateway Library and Mason’s Writing Center partnered to offer several undergraduate Research and Write-In sessions during this academic year. Undergraduate Research and Write-Ins offer students a structured environment in which to write their final papers. Providing a supportive and productive atmosphere for concentrated work, free from distractions, the Gateway Library and Writing Center staff were available to assist students throughout these popular sessions.

Workshops by Request
Fall 2013 saw the debut of a variation on the Libraries’ popular drop-in workshops: Workshops by Request. Students at any campus can organize a group of up to eight classmates or colleagues for specialized research assistance. The group can select workshops from a list of offerings, or request a customized workshop for its specific research needs. This puts learning in the students’ hands, allowing them to schedule workshops at their convenience.
Students as Scholars: Assessment in Action

George Mason University’s 2011 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaccreditation review resulted in the Students as Scholars Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The QEP and its program rubric offered the Libraries an opportunity to partner with faculty in designated research-intensive courses across the curriculum to provide and assess information literacy instruction in context. As a result of Mason’s participation in the Association of College and Research Libraries “Assessment in Action” project, the University Libraries and Mason’s Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities and Research (OSCAR) developed a pilot project to explore and assess sustainable practices for embedded library instruction in research-intensive undergraduate courses, and draw conclusions about the ways successful partnerships of this type could change and enhance collaboration by faculty and librarians.

During Fall 2013, eight courses piloted a model that includes a student pre-assessment, faculty-librarian collaborations to plan, produce and provide embedded information literacy in the classes, and student post-assessment. Librarians and professors assessed the students’ projects, giving librarians a unique opportunity to see the impact of their instruction. Based on initial assessment results and participants’ positive, enthusiastic reactions, eight classes were added to the program in Spring 2014. The program will continue in Fall 2014 and beyond.

Honors College Partnership

In Fall 2013, the Libraries again worked closely with the leadership of the Honors College to provide in-depth assistance with the Honors 110 required four-credit Research Methods class. This year, 27 librarians worked with more than 250 students, providing high-level subject area research expertise to these first-year researchers. Meeting each student by appointment, the librarians focused on the individual student’s researchable topics; identified core resources to use, and crafted search strategies to aid the student in preparing their required poster session presentations and final papers. Based on student feedback and survey results, the library research assignment was a key learning experience for the students, teaching additional library research skills through the combination of working with their Honors Program Graduate Research Assistant and a subject librarian. Mason librarians look forward to continued partnership with the Honors College in future years.
Teaching + Learning

Arlington Campus Library

Fenwick Library (above); Mercer Library (right)
Gateway Library Celebrates
New Students, New Name

In Spring 2014, the Johnson Center Library changed its mission, focus, and name. Established as the University Center Library, and renamed Johnson Center Library almost 20 years ago, this popular library now serves as the initial gateway for students new to the university. In the Gateway Library, students learn about library resources and services, and integrate information use and skills into their scholarship. Physical facilities were reconfigured to provide collaborative student spaces for active learning.

A new department in Gateway Library was also created: Teaching and Learning Services (TLS). TLS library faculty and staff are responsible for information literacy instruction for undergraduates; outreach and marketing of the Gateway Library to the academic community; instructional design and tutorials; learning technologies; distance education and media support for faculty; and pedagogical support for subject librarians.

Realigning for more efficient deployment of staff skills and more effective service to and for the Mason community, the library’s multiple service desks were merged into one, ensuring quality service at a single, integrated point. Technology innovations were also planned as staff is assessing One Button Studio capabilities and media:scape collaboration spaces for Gateway Library.
Libraries Gifted with “The Works of John Locke”

The University Libraries’ collections have continued to expand thanks to generous gifts that enhance teaching, learning, and research on the campus. In May 2014, Mason Libraries’ Special Collections and Archives received a set of *The Works of John Locke*. Published in 1714, the three leather-bound volumes were “printed for John Churchill at the Black Swan in Paternoster-Row.” The set was donated by Gerry Tollet in a brief ceremony at the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville, TN.

*The Works of John Locke* has a particular meaning for the University. In 1776, George Mason was appointed to a committee charged to draft a "Declaration of Rights" for Virginia. Having read and studied the writings of English Enlightenment philosopher John Locke (1632-1704), Mason was inspired with the concept that starting a republic had to begin with the fact that individuals have inalienable rights. Eventually, Mason’s Declaration of Rights became the foundation of the United States Bill of Rights.

Locke is featured as one of the influential texts in the George Mason statue on the University’s Fairfax campus.
Published Copy of Washington’s Will Added To Randolph Lytton Historical Virginia Collection

Professor Randolph and Mrs. Ellen Lytton donated a published copy of George Washington’s last will and testament. The will was completed in July 1799, only six months prior to Washington’s death. The will was first printed in Alexandria shortly after it was filed for probate in Fairfax County, Virginia, in January 1800. According to the title page, the will was printed in New York “from the Alexandria edition.” The Lytton collection is housed in Special Collections and Archives.

New Collaborations with Knowledge Unlatched, Alexander Street Press

During 2013-14, Mason Libraries proudly became a Charter Member of Knowledge Unlatched, a nonprofit group which is developing a new open access model for publishing and acquiring monographs. Mason was also the first North American library to join the Alexander Street Press pilot program for evidenced-based acquisition (EBA) of streaming video resources. Detailed usage reports will inform library selectors which titles should be permanently added to the Libraries’ collections.
Dissertation Writers’ Rooms

Two existing group study spaces on the Arlington and Fairfax campuses were repurposed to create Dissertation Writers’ Rooms (DWR) in each facility. The rooms provide individual study spaces, secure storage for research materials, and special access for Mason doctoral students working on his/her dissertation. Doctoral students may apply to use the DWR of their choice. Once approved, the students use his/her assigned space for one academic term, and may re-apply for space each term.
Collaboration Spaces Created, Presentation Studio Planned

Two media:scape collaboration stations were installed in Gateway Library for student group work. Library staff also examined and planned to convert space in the library to accommodate One Button Studio, an easy-to-use, yet advanced, and sophisticated presentation system for students and faculty to create videos on their own. This technology-rich addition was installed in Fall 2014.

Libraries Develop Spaces for Student Success, Enrichment

Beginning in Summer 2013 and unveiled in Spring 2014, the main Fenwick Library hallway, which once housed the library’s card catalogues, was converted into a space for another type of academic learning opportunity—Fenwick Gallery. Emphasizing the Libraries’ collections, faculty and student research interests, and Mason’s curriculum, the gallery displays high-quality works by students and faculty. The Gallery has become a destination for various English, history, and art classes as well. A new partnership between Mason’s School of Art and the Libraries provides a Master’s in Fine Arts student practical gallery experience through a Graduate Professional Assistantship (GPA).

Fenwick Gallery’s inaugural exhibit was held in April 2014. The Gallery is managed by Jenna Rinalducci, Art and Art History Liaison Librarian.
**Fenwick Library**

**Construction Nearing Completion**

After several years of construction, the Fenwick Library expansion project is coming to conclusion. Adhering to LEED silver standards, the project provides 150,000 square feet of new space, doubling the total space of the existing building.

When originally built, Fenwick was a white columned structure, which is now known as Wing A. Two towers, Wings B and C, were added in 1974 and 1983, respectively. The new addition is located on the south side of Wing A and surrounds the towers on two sides.

With the expanded space, Fenwick Library will house a new reading room; space for events; a research commons to support individual and collaborative projects; the Special Collections and Archives Department with exhibit spaces; and a 24-hour study space and café.

To learn about naming opportunities in the new Fenwick Library, please contact Kathleen Kehoe, University Libraries Director of Development at 703-993-8740.
University Libraries Establish New Mason Publishing Group

The George Mason University Press, originally part of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences from 2007 to 2012, was transferred in 2013 to the University Libraries. This transfer served as the catalyst to launch a multifaceted publishing initiative for the university.

Mason Publishing Group consolidates robust digital publishing programs and services within the University Libraries, which has developed expertise and increased capacity in scholarly publishing for several years. The mission of Mason Publishing is to support and provide resources to the George Mason University community to create, curate, and disseminate scholarly, creative, and educational works.

Historically, university presses serve an important role in making research generated by university faculty available to the academic community and broader public. University presses increase visibility for their parent institutions through news coverage and book reviews, awards won, and exhibits at scholarly conferences. Established university presses also fund the production of new titles through sales of backlist titles.

Current programs and services of the Mason Publishing Group include the scholarly communication and copyright office, University electronic thesis and dissertations (ETDs), the Mason institutional repository (MARS), electronic journal hosting and publishing, and data publication. Future additional planned services include e-book publishing and conference proceedings. For more information about the George Mason University Press Contact John Warren, Head, Mason Publishing Group, George Mason University Press, at 703-993-3636.

Balancing for Success

During 2013-14, University Libraries planned and began to implement the Balanced Scorecard (BSC) process, a management rubric to help vision our organizational strategic plan and effectively achieve goals. The BSC is a well-recognized strategic planning and performance management tool that assists institutions in prioritizing their efforts toward change they want to achieve, and serves to track progress toward that change.

For Mason Libraries, the BSC serves as the organization's strategic plan and will guide the Libraries’ strategies that support and contribute to the university’s 10-year strategic plan. Moreover, the BSC outlines clear paths for the Libraries to follow in response to anticipated and/or changing priorities. The University Libraries is completing the first year of implementation.
“Broadside” Photograph Digitization Project

Special Collections and Archives received a grant from Mason’s Auxiliary Enterprise Management Council (AEMC) to fund new scanning equipment and two undergraduate student assistants to scan, research, and contextualize negatives from the George Mason University Broadside photograph collection. This project will make approximately 10,000 original images of George Mason University, taken by Broadside student newspaper staff, accessible online. The photos date from the 1970s to the early 2000s. This project adds depth to documenting Mason’s history, as well as digital content for the George Mason University: A History website (ahistoryofmason.gmu.edu).

library.gmu.edu: new. mobile. website.

In May 2014, the Libraries launched a new and improved library website: library.gmu.edu. This site was redesigned and overhauled to achieve the following goals and enhance the user’s mobile experience:

- Responsive design—vastly improves web experience for mobile and tablet device users
- Meet or exceed accessibility requirements—assures that users with disabilities can perceive, understand, navigate, and effectively interact with the site
- User Centered—focuses the library website on how Mason students, faculty, and staff think about, discover, and use research
- Eliminate ROT—removes redundant, outdated, and/or trivial content to improve access and delivery of content

TextSelect: Required Textbooks on Reserve

In Fall 2013, the Libraries created a new acquisitions program to help address the cost of required course textbooks. Through TextSelect, the Libraries purchase copies of required textbooks for selected 100-, 200-, 300- and 400-level required courses including: general education classes; business and economics; conflict resolution; science, technology, engineering, mathematics; and health and nursing. TextSelect also includes selected textbooks under $50 and selected graduate-level textbooks in aforementioned areas. TextSelect books are placed on 2-hour reserve in the Gateway Library, Fairfax Campus, and accessible to all students.
Reelin’ in the Years: Reston at 50

Reston at 50: Looking Back at Forward Thinking—A Symposium on Diversity, Planning, Preservation and Scholarship was held Monday, April 28, 2014, at the Reston Community Center. Attended by more than 200 people, the symposium highlighted resources, research, and scholarship on Reston and its history and heritage. Moderated by Mason’s own Dr. Wendi Manuel-Scott, Director, African and African-American Studies, the symposium featured several panel presentations by Mason faculty and students. Ms. Lindsey Bestebreurtje, doctoral candidate, Department of History and Art History, addressed the context of Reston’s groundbreaking integration and diversity policies. Professor Harold Linton, Director, School of Art, provided a window into the development of the Reston Plan, and its seven principles of design, design/planning precedents, architecture, success, awards, and liabilities. Jordan Patty, Manuscripts and Archives Librarian, Special Collections and Archives and doctoral student, Department of History and Art History, highlighted the history of the Planned Community Archives (PCA), a research collection developed and donated by the Reston community to the Mason Libraries.

Professor Zachary M. Schrag, Professor of U.S. History, Department of History and Art History, introduced four undergraduate history majors in the HIST 499 capstone research seminar (a Research and Scholarship Intensive course). Michael Fijalka, Mark Wisinger, Drake Eidson and DeNike Williams discussed their individual research work based on the Planned Community Archives. Reston at 50: Looking Back at Forward Thinking was co-sponsored by the Reston Museum and Historic Trust, and presented with support from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.
Reston Anniversary: Digital Exhibit, Commemorative Catalog

In 1987, Mason Libraries’ relationship with the founders of Reston started with the deposit of the Planned Community Archives (PCA) collection in Special Collections and Archives. Gifted to the Libraries in 2006, the PCA collection contains archival materials gathered and preserved by people and organizations associated with Reston’s history and development. To mark Reston’s 50th anniversary, Special Collections and Archives created a new digital exhibition on Reston’s history. As part of a grant project funded by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Reston@50 is based on the Omeka platform. The site contains eight themed exhibits and more than 100 exhibit items from the University Libraries’ Reston collections. Special Collections and Archives also compiled and produced “Reston, Virginia Collections,” a 24-page catalog describing more than 30 archival collections documenting Reston and its development from 1960 to 2010.

Data Management Bootcamp 2014

In January 2014, George Mason University served as host and co-sponsor of a state-wide Data Management Bootcamp, which was offered to students in any discipline or academic program. Wendy Mann, Head, Data Services Group, spearheaded Mason’s participation in the Bootcamp. This collaborative event was broadcast via the 4VA telepresence system to five academic sites: University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, James Madison University, George Mason University, and Old Dominion University. Thirty-five Mason participants heard from experts across the state at this three-day event. At the conclusion of the Bootcamp, Mason Libraries’ Data Services staff provided local, hands-on, practical application of what participants had learned during the sessions.

Open Access Week Debate

What are the risks of publishing in an open access (OA) journal and what must be done to combat predatory OA publishing? Will OA publishing eventually supplant the traditional scholarly publishing model? In October 2013, the nationally-ranked Mason University Forensics Team tackled these questions and more in a roundtable discussion, “Open or Not? What You Need to Know About Open Access to Research,” hosted by the University Libraries and the Department of Communication. Coordinated by Claudia Holland, Head, Copyright and Scholarly Communication, Mason’s 5th annual International Open Access (OA) Week featured various activities, programs, workshops, discussions, webinars, and campus visits.
Gilbert and Sullivan Endowed Fund Supports Unique Collection

In February 2014, Mr. David Stone and his wife, Ann, established the David and Annabelle Stone Gilbert and Sullivan Endowment for cataloging and preserving the significant Gilbert and Sullivan collection they are donating to the University Libraries. The Stone collection offers inestimable research value for Mason faculty and students as well as scholars worldwide. The collection complements existing strengths in university performing arts collections such as the Arena Stage Archives and Federal Theatre Project Collections, both of which are held by the University Libraries.

Grants Fund Digitization

- The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities provided funding to develop a publication and web portal, Fifty Years of Reston Past and Future Reston: Educators, Learners, and the Community Coming Together, for the 2014 anniversaries of Reston (50 years) and Reston Center (25 years).
- Mason Auxiliary Enterprise Management Council generously contributed a grant for the Broadsidc Photograph Digitization Project.

C-SPAN Organizational Historical Archives Entrusted to Mason

C-SPAN (Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network) gifted its organizational records and historical archive to the George Mason University Libraries. C-SPAN also committed funding for a two-year project relating to the materials, which will encompass processing, physical and intellectual organization, selective digitization, and development and creation of a scholarly research portal. The C-SPAN collection comprises historically significant, unique, and unpublished materials including both physical and digital records. Other materials include outreach and educational files, photographs, clippings and memorabilia. The libraries’ scholarly research portal will provide links to C-SPAN’s video library—its archive of televised programs—thus establishing connections between C-SPAN’s history and its public programming.
**Fenwick Fellow**  Mark Koyama, Assistant Professor in the Economics Department and Mercatus Center Senior Scholar, was the University Libraries’ Fenwick Fellow for the 2013-2014 academic year. His research project, *The Rise and Fall of the Persecuting State*, examined Western Europe as the birthplace of modern ideas of political freedom and religious toleration. He investigated minority group persecution in medieval and early modern Europe, economic and political changes faced by rulers of the period, and how religious toleration emerged during the 17th century. The study, which used a combination of new historical data and approaches from modern political economy, was presented at the annual Fenwick Fellow Lecture in Spring 2015.

**Distinguished Library Faculty Award**  Robert (Bob) Vay, Digital Collections and Exhibitions Archivist, Special Collections and Archives, was selected as the first recipient of George Mason University Libraries’ Distinguished Library Faculty Award. Criteria include exemplary and enduring professional performance, as well as consequential contributions within the University Libraries, the university, and the broader academic and scholarly community. Colleagues nominated Bob for his skills and knowledge of Mason and Northern Virginia, presented through his many varied presentations, publications, and exhibitions. Former University Provost Peter Stearns announced the citation and Associate Provost Kim Eby presented the inaugural award during the 2014 Celebration of Teaching at the Center for the Arts, Fairfax.

**Library Staff Excellence Award**  Greta Kuriger Suiter, Processing Specialist, Special Collections and Archives, received the first George Mason University Libraries’ Staff Excellence Award in January 2014. This new semi-annual award was established to recognize a staff member’s extraordinary accomplishments. Greta was recognized for her outstanding contributions to ensure library services exceed faculty and student expectations. As a valued team member, she fosters an environment of collegiality and teamwork, while promoting the mission of the University Libraries.

**RUSA Award**  Yvonne Carignan, Head, Special Collections and Archives, received the 2014 American Library Association’s Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) History Section Gale Cengage Learning History Research and Innovation Award. Her project, “History of Virginia Antebellum Social Libraries,” aims to document all social libraries that existed in the Commonwealth of Virginia before the Civil War.
Sharing Expertise

**Theresa Calcagno, Engineering Liaison Librarian**

**Yvonne Carignan, Head, Special Collections and Archives**

**Anne Driscoll, Education Liaison Librarian**

**Steven K. Gerber, Music and Theater Liaison Librarian**
- “I Won’t Dance, Don’t Ask Me: Preliminary WorldCat Analysis of Performing Arts Holdings.” Presentation. International Association of Music Libraries and Archives, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria, August 1, 2013.

**Heather Groves Hannan, Head, Mercer Library**
- “Great Expectations: Combining Services, Improving Experiences.” Presentation. Library Management Institute, Philadelphia, PA, June 17, 2014 (with Beth Roszkowski, Head, Arlington Campus Library and Patricia J. West, Head, Teaching and Learning Services, Gateway Library).

**Jo Ann J. Henson, Business and Economics Liaison Librarian**
Doug Hernandez, Reference and Instruction Specialist

- “What’s the Problem?: Student Centered Learning in Social Sciences Library Instruction.” Presentation. ACRL Anthropology & Social Sciences Section Discussion Group, 2014 ALA Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, June 28, 2014 (with Janna Mattson, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian and Mary Oberlies, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian).

Margaret Lam, Physical Sciences Liaison Librarian

- “Professional Development Needs of Science and Technology Librarians: Results of the 2012 SLA/PAM Professional Development Committee Survey.” Issues in Science & Technology Librarianship, Number 73, Summer 2013 (with Nedelina Tchangoalova).

Tricia Mackenzie, Head, Resource Description and Metadata Services


Wendy Mann, Head, Data Services Group


Janna Mattson, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian

- “What’s the Problem?: Student Centered Learning in Social Sciences Library Instruction.” Presentation. ACRL Anthropology & Social Sciences Section Discussion Group, 2014 ALA Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, June 28, 2014 (with Mary Oberlies, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian and Doug Hernandez, Reference and Instruction Specialist).
Sharing Expertise

Helen McManus, Political Science and Public Policy Liaison Librarian


George Oberle, History Liaison Librarian


Mary Oberlies, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian


Michael Perini, Research and Instruction Specialist

- “Enhancing Collaboration through the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.” Collaborative Librarianship, 6(1), 52-55, 2014.

Jenna Rinalducci, Art and Visual Technology Liaison Librarian


Beth Roszkowski, Head, Arlington Campus Library

- “The Scholars’ Commons: Redefining Library Services and Spaces for Graduate Student Success.” Presentation. 2014 Virginia Library Association Paraprofessional Conference, Richmond, VA, May 2014 (with Michael Perini, Research and Instruction Specialist).
Sarah E. Sheehan, Health Sciences Liaison Librarian


Diane H. Smith, Associate University Librarian, Research and Educational Services


Jen Stevens, Humanities Liaison Librarian


Joy Suh, Geography and GIS Liaison Librarian


Patricia J. West, Head, Teaching & Learning Services, Gateway Library

- "Embedded Library Instruction in Undergraduate Research Classes: Facilitating the Scholarly Conversation between Faculty, Librarians and Students.” Poster Session. 2014 ALA Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, June 26, 2014 (with Dorothy Lockaby, Stephanie Hazel, Bethany Usher).