

THE LIBRARIES AT MASON

SPRING 2018

PEOPLE • RESOURCES • EVENTS



**Dedication of the John N. Paden
Nigerian/African Collection
A Celebration of Gilbert & Sullivan
The Legacies of George Mason**

About the Cover: John N. Paden at the dedication ceremony for his Nigerian/African Collection

Inside Cover Photo: Fenwick Library



John N. Paden

Nigerian/African Collection



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John N. Paden stands by the plaque of the new dedicated space in the Arlington Campus Library named in his honor; see story on page 5

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John G. Zenelis,
Dean of Libraries and
University Librarian

Letter from the Dean

Dear Friends of the Mason Libraries,

We've been in our "new" expanded Fenwick Library for two years, and it's exciting to see how the space is explored and used, how the library is full of students studying and collaborating on a daily basis.

2017 was quite a year. We dedicated our first named space in our Arlington Campus Library – the John N. Paden Nigerian/African Collection. We completed renovations on the second floor of the old Fenwick building, bringing our music collection together in a Music Library and launching our Digital Scholarship Center. And, with a Special Project Grant from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, we looked back at the Cuban Missile Crisis and expanded our Oral History Project archives.

We curated exhibitions in our Special Collections Research Center featuring rare and interesting items from our collections, and in our Fenwick Gallery featuring student and faculty artistic works. Two exhibitions in particular, along with associated public programming, were the result of multi-level collaborations – "A Celebration of Gilbert & Sullivan" (involving the collectors, Ann and David Stone, the Libraries, and the College of Visual and Performing Arts) and "Our Comics, Ourselves" (involving Interface Archive in NYC and multiple Mason departments).

Additionally, we hosted our annual Fenwick Fellow lecture, expanded our Mason Author Series offerings, and continued our partnership with Fall for the Book, an annual literary festival which will celebrate its twentieth year in 2018.

None of these things could be accomplished without our talented and dedicated library faculty and staff, our community partners, our donors, and our friends. We are so appreciative for all you have helped us accomplish and look forward to exciting endeavors in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John G. Zenelis".



M. S. Barkindo and
John N. Paden

John N. Paden Nigerian/African Collection Dedication

On Thursday, November 9, 2017, the University Libraries celebrated the naming of the *John N. Paden Nigerian/African Collection*, a dedicated space in the Arlington Campus Library.

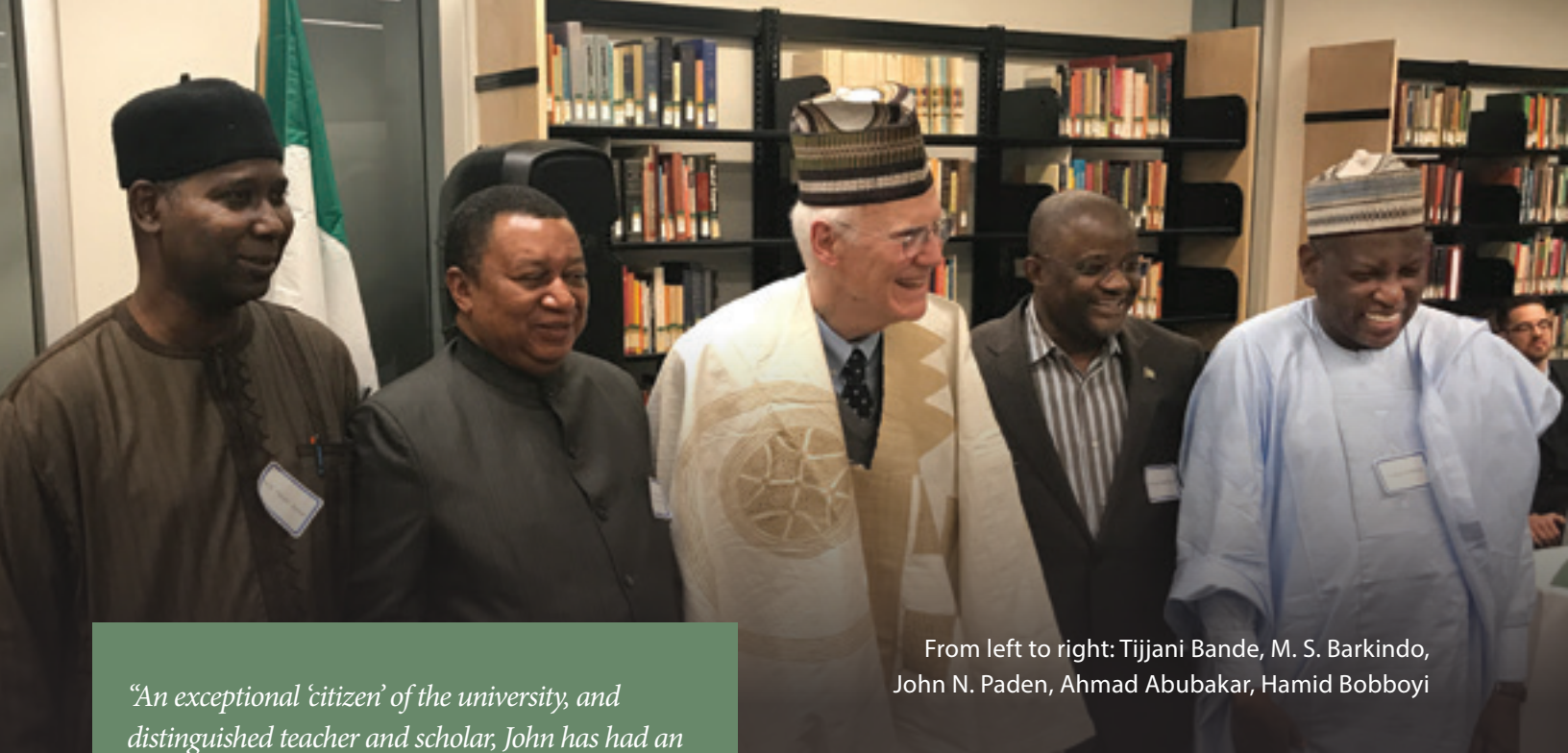
The ceremony in honor of John N. Paden, Clarence Robinson Professor Emeritus of International Studies, recognized his leadership in the field of international studies and his numerous contributions – to the George Mason University Libraries’ collections and to George Mason University as a distinguished faculty member. Paden served as a Robinson Professor at Mason, where he taught African and Asian Studies from January 1987 until his retirement in May 2017.

More than 50 people attended the dedication ceremony, including former graduate students, colleagues, and friends of Paden. John Zenelis, Dean of Libraries and University Librarian, served as host and welcomed the distinguished guests, including The Honorable John Campbell, former U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria; His Excellency Tijjani Bande, Nigeria’s Ambassador to the United Nations; His Excellency Mohammad Sanusi

Barkindo, Secretary General of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); and Dr. Hamid Bobboyi, Executive Secretary of the Universal Basic Education Center, Abuja, Nigeria (and a former

“Many of us involved in Africa regard John Paden as our dean. We have benefitted directly from his wisdom, depth of knowledge, and his joy in Africa. Now, with his donation of his library to George Mason University, a much larger audience can benefit, as we did. The University is also to be commended for the superb facilities it has made available, both at the Fairfax Campus and the Arlington Campus. With the Paden collection George Mason University is well positioned to nurture the next generation of American Africanists.”

The Honorable John Campbell
Former U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria
Current Ralph Bunche Senior Fellow for African
Policy Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations



From left to right: Tijjani Bande, M. S. Barkindo, John N. Paden, Ahmad Abubakar, Hamid Bobboyi

“An exceptional ‘citizen’ of the university, and distinguished teacher and scholar, John has had an important and lasting impact on the university’s libraries, too. He led the GMU Library Task Force and authored its report in 1989. ‘Toward a University Library of the 21st Century,’ or better known as the Paden Report, was a prescient report which anticipated many of the changes that have occurred in scholarly communications during the digital revolution ... and was a major influence on the university’s development of the Gateway Library in the Johnson Center, on the Fairfax campus, in the 1990s. When I joined Mason, nineteen years ago, the Paden Report was one of the university documents that I became thoroughly familiar with.”

Mr. John G. Zenelis
Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

The honoree Paden said, “I would like to think that our Nigerian/African collection could serve as a welcome mat to scholars from around the world. We live at a time of ever more rapid means of communication. But real understanding requires a deeper dive into the history and cultures of our world. We also live at a time when approximately one-quarter of all countries in the world are in Africa.”

In 2011, Paden gifted his collection, including rare nineteenth century French first editions, of approximately 4,000 books, photographs, maps, and other printed and manuscript materials from his library of materials relating to Africa. His wish was to have the books in a dedicated space open to students, scholars, and the public ... and close to Washington, DC!

student of Professor Paden). Also in attendance was John’s son, Audu Paden.

Dr. S. David Wu, Provost and Executive Vice President of Mason, remarked that Paden’s book collection would go a long way in achieving one of the university’s goals of making Mason an important global learning platform. The Honorable John Campbell and His Excellency Tijjani Bande both shared their professional and personal experiences and the positive impact that Paden has had on them.

“In the course of his own scholarship and throughout his teaching career, Professor Paden assembled a most impressive library of books and other materials, a comprehensive resource for the study of modern Sub-Saharan Africa,” Zenelis said during the ceremony.

Multiple donors contributed to fund an endowment in honor of Paden’s work in Nigeria. The endowment will provide support for the preservation and care of the collection, as well as cover associated costs with future acquisitions of research materials about Nigeria/Africa by the Libraries.

"I was excited to find so many books in the Dr. John N. Paden Collection that will contribute in a meaningful way to the analysis of my research, especially the titles about political power and political elites, which is the focus of my dissertation. My research focuses on the Palestinian and the Jewish political elites in Israel and the power dynamic that occurs between the Jewish and Palestinian political elites in Israel. I want to spend hours at the new home of the Paden Collection because wherever I direct my eyes in that space I can find books that capture my attention and can be so relevant for my research. I acknowledge him for this generosity and contribution to our research and what we are bringing to this world as scholars who rely on these resources to make our analysis make a contribution in our reality."

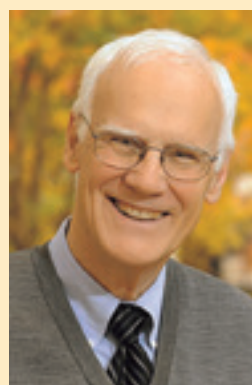
Ms. Fakhira Halloun
PhD candidate and Graduate Research Assistant
School of Conflict Analysis and Resolution
George Mason University



John N. Paden interviewed by
Maryam Bugaje for Voice of America

Endowments at the University Libraries

If you are interested in supporting the John N. Paden Nigerian/African Collection or other endowments, please visit <https://library.gmu.edu/support/endowments> for more information or contact Kathleen Kehoe, Director of Development, at (703) 993-8740 or kkehoe@gmu.edu.



John N. Paden

John N. Paden served as Clarence Robinson Professor of International Studies at George Mason University from January 1987 until his retirement

in May 2017. Upon his retirement, Professor Paden was granted Emeritus status. He received his BA in philosophy from Occidental College, his MA in philosophy, politics and economics from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, and his PhD in politics from Harvard University.

Paden was Norman Dwight Harris Professor of International Studies and director of African Studies at Northwestern University; professor of public administration at Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria; and founding dean, Faculty of Social and Management Sciences, at Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria.

Paden was part of the team that helped plan Nigeria's new federal "unity" capital in Abuja. He served as an international observer during the Nigerian presidential elections of 1999, 2003, and 2007.

Paden worked closely with colleagues at the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto in Nigeria, especially those at the Center for Peace Studies. In 2012, he received an honorary doctorate in humane letters from that university for his "immense contributions to the advancement of frontiers of knowledge and scholarship."

His many Nigerian-related books include *Religion and Political Culture in Kano* (winner of the Herskovits Prize); *Ahmadu Bello, Sardauna of Sokoto: Values and Leadership in Nigeria*; *Postelection Conflict Management in Nigeria: The Challenges of National Unity*; and *Muhammadu Buhari: The Challenges of Leadership in Nigeria*.



Professor Boettke addresses the room on "What Buchanan has meant to Mason"

Celebrating "Nobility" – A Buchanan Retrospective

The Libraries has the honor of being the repository for the extensive papers and library of esteemed economist and Nobel Laureate, Professor James. M. Buchanan.

The papers include documents dating to the early years of his academic career and encompass correspondence, memos, individual publications and off-prints, photographs, and other ephemera. As such, the James M. Buchanan Collection is an invaluable tool for scholars in the fields of economics, political science, and history. With proper processing and care in our Special Collections Research Center (SCRC), the Libraries will be able to provide access to decades of economic thought, theories, and writings to scholars around the world.

To commemorate the receipt of this collection as well as the thirtieth anniversary of Dr. Buchanan receiving the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, the Libraries mounted an exhibition entitled *Celebrating "Nobility" Thirty*

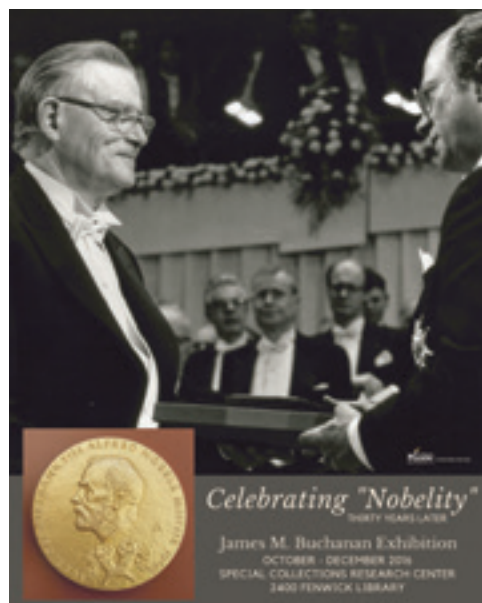
Years Later: James M. Buchanan in the fall of 2016. The exhibition featured materials from the University Archives and the newly-acquired Buchanan papers, tracing the life and work of one of Mason's most renowned scholars.

The Libraries also hosted a special reception and program on Tuesday, October 25, 2016. The program featured "An Introduction to Buchanan's Work and Thought" by Solomon Stein, Research Fellow, Mercatus Center; "An Introduction to the Archivist's Process" by

Elizabeth Beckman, Manuscripts and Archives Librarian; "What Buchanan has meant to Mason" by Peter J. Boettke, University Professor of Economics and Philosophy; and "Daring to be Different: Reflections on the Life and Work of James Buchanan" by Robert L. Vay, Archivist, who was an undergraduate student at Mason in 1986 when the prize was announced on October 16 of that year.

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Exhibition poster for "Celebrating 'Nobility,'" featuring photo of Dr. Buchanan receiving his Nobel Prize



A Celebration Of Gilbert & Sullivan



Iolanthe performance photo, Harris Theatre, George Mason University, April 2017

British dramatist W. S. Gilbert and composer Arthur Sullivan were perhaps the most popular and influential collaboration in the history of Western musical theatre.

Their famous comic operas – including *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Mikado* – continue to fill theatres and delight audiences to this day.

“Oh, Joy Unbounded...”: A Celebration of Gilbert & Sullivan, a tribute to this lasting delight, was a year-long celebration undertaken by the University Libraries and the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA), in collaboration with donors David and Annabelle Stone. The Stones’ Gilbert & Sullivan Collection formed the centerpiece of the celebration, which featured exhibitions, theatrical performances, and other events (such as the Libraries’ grand opening celebration for our new Music Library space on the second floor of Fenwick Library).

Of the collaboration, Rick Davis, Dean of CVPA, said, “Nothing less than such a partnership can fully recognize



Forum attendees explore the Fenwick Gallery exhibition space featuring items from the Stone Collection

Gilbert & Sullivan as the transformative pair of creative geniuses that they were. Their work, predominantly in their famous comic operas, continues to reveal the Victorian world to us, and – through contemporary productions such as we presented throughout the year – to comment pungently on our own time.”

In conjunction with student and guest performances, three galleries in Fenwick Library and one gallery at the Hylton Performing Arts Center were dedicated to displaying items from the Stones’ remarkable collection – a collection that includes manuscripts, books, periodicals, opera libretti, printed music, photographs, posters, programs, recordings, as well as costume designs.

The peak of the celebratory year occurred on April 29, 2017 when about 100 attendees convened at George Mason University for a day-long affair, including a guided tour of the three exhibition galleries in Fenwick Library and a scholarly forum examining the life, works, and influence

of Gilbert & Sullivan. Many attendees stayed for a Friends of Music dinner that evening and then joined a full house in Mason’s Harris Theatre for a delightful performance of *Iolanthe* by Mason Opera students.

The forum began with David Stone’s reflections on the beginnings of his collection – inspired by a gift of *Vanity Fair* caricatures of Gilbert & Sullivan from his wife Ann – and a tour of the exhibition galleries in Fenwick. Sessions followed on the history, influence, and contemporary performance and reception of Gilbert & Sullivan and their works.

W. Scott Hayes, great-grandnephew of Sir Author Sullivan, gave a touching history of Arthur Sullivan and his California connection. His discussion, accompanied by illustrative slides, focused on Sullivan as devoted uncle to his brother Frederic’s family. After Frederic’s death, Sullivan became guardian of the family and looked out for them in many ways. Following a transatlantic

“Our Comics, Ourselves”

In Fall 2017, the Libraries’ Fenwick Gallery hosted “Our Comics, Ourselves: Identity, Expression, and Representation in Comic Art,” an exhibition of comic books and graphic novels.

Curated by Jan Descartes and Monica McKelvey Johnson, “Our Comics, Ourselves” included comic books, graphic novels, DIY comics, and various comics paraphernalia primarily from the United States, from 1945 to present. The works ranged from autobiographical to sheer fantasy, and explored feminism, abortion, racism, cultural identity, social activism, labor unions, veterans of war, sexual abuse, student debt, immigration, public health, civil rights, gender and sexual identity, and more. The graphic stories presented in “Our Comics, Ourselves” describe the complexity and diversity of our collective experience, and examines the social and historical contexts within which they emerged.

“Our Comics, Ourselves” is an independent traveling exhibition that originated at Interference Archive (Brooklyn, NY) in 2016, and its visit to Fenwick Library was supported by faculty partners and departments across George Mason University.



“The Gilbert & Sullivan Forum and Exhibition at George Mason University took place nine months ago as I write, and I am still filled with pleasure and admiration as I reflect on that day.

I continue to feel delight for my friends David and Ann Stone and the reception that their generous donation of their incomparable collection received from the University.

It was very gratifying to hear, on the day, strong affirmations from representatives of the library system and the faculty of the value of Gilbert & Sullivan to the academic and artistic programs of the University.

It was a pleasure and honor to be a part of this celebratory day, to share the podium with valued friends in the Savoy opera subculture, and to make new friends during the panel discussion that formed the capstone to the day.

As I write, I understand from David that the first transfer of materials has been completed, and I look forward to the future as George Mason University becomes a hub of Gilbert & Sullivan research in the future.”

**Ralph MacPhail, Jr., Professor Emeritus,
Bridgewater College & Artistic Director,
Gilbert & Sullivan Austin**

Iolanthe performance photo,
Harris Theatre, George Mason University, April 2017



journey to New York in the summer of 1885 to consult on a production of *The Mikado*, he made the cross-country journey via train to visit the family in Los Angeles where they had relocated after his sister-in-law's remarriage. Maude, one of Frederic's daughters, is Hayes' grandmother.

Stone led a second session on “Sullivan's Other Collaborators: Shakespeare to Kipling,” where he discussed Sullivan's other musical collaborations and creations, including religious hymns and choral works. One of Sullivan's great influences was Shakespeare, as demonstrated by his first major work as a young composer being a musical score telling the story of *The Tempest*. One fun tidbit we learned from the session was that Sullivan declined Lewis Carroll's request to set songs from *Alice in Wonderland* to music. The session was interspersed with performances of the musical examples by Mason's School of Music students: Crystal Golden, Brittany Michaelson-Mulkey, Daniel Smith, James Stevens, and Anjanette Trebing accompanied by Eunae Ko Han.

Carolyn Williams, Professor of English at Rutgers



Forum attendees explore the Special Collections Research Center's pop-up exhibition space featuring items from the Stone Collection



David and Ann Stone at the Gilbert & Sullivan Gallery Reception on April 27, 2017 at the Hylton Performing Arts Center

University, delivered a fascinating lecture on “*Iolanthe* and Other Victorian Fairies” setting us up for the evening performance. The influence of such illustrators as Arthur Rackham, the folklore about fairies, and the stories of their interference in human affairs is delightfully exemplified in Gilbert & Sullivan’s comic opera *Iolanthe*.

In his talk, “Directing Gilbert & Sullivan Through Reflected Light,” Ralph MacPhail, Professor Emeritus of Bridgewater College and Gilbert & Sullivan aficionado, discussed the sparsity of stage directions in the opera librettos, and commented that is one of the reasons

the photographs, paintings, promptbooks, notebooks, and reviews in the Stone Collection are so valuable to theatre production for those who “wish to shine the reflected light of original production” on contemporary production and scholarship.

Such questions surrounding contemporary production segued nicely into the final session of the day – a panel moderated by Steve Gerber, Music Librarian, Mason Libraries and comprised of John Aler, Associate Professor, Voice and Opera, Mason School of Music; Ken Elston, Director, Mason School of Theater; Ralph MacPhail, Professor Emeritus, Bridgewater College; Peter Stearns, University Professor, Mason History and Art History; and Carolyn Williams, Professor of English, Rutgers – on the topic of nineteenth century opera for twenty-first century audiences. Energetic discussions followed such questions as “should nineteenth century references be updated and addressed?” If so, “how far is too far?” and “is there such a thing as too far?” Panelists explored the idea that there is good and bad art in every genre, and times and taste change.

John Zenelis, Dean of Libraries and University Librarian said, “I could not be more pleased by how the day of the forum turned out. We were delighted to collaborate with the Stones and with CVPA to bring the forum and associated events to pass. The exhibitions highlighted an extensive array of materials from the David and Annabelle Stone Gilbert and Sullivan Collection, and the forum



From left to right: Rick Davis, John Aler, Carolyn Williams, Ken Elston, Peter Stearns, and Ralph MacPhail, Jr.

speakers facilitated dynamic discussions for our guests.”

The day and the celebrations have concluded, but the influence carries on. In December 2017, the Stones officially transferred the first portion of their collection over to the University Libraries’ Special Collections Research Center (SCRC). Reflecting about what the collection means for the Libraries, Lynn Eaton, Director of SCRC, said “we are thrilled to have this collection in SCRC. It is a wonderful addition to the other performing arts collections housed here in SCRC, but the Stone Collection is a standout in its own right, due to its depth and breadth. It is a wonderfully rich research collection, and we enjoyed working with David and Ann Stone to display items from the collection last year and to begin the permanent transfer to its new home at Mason.”

Davis added, “The Stone Collection will serve as both a scholarly resource and a very fine excuse (or inspiration) for programming of many different kinds. The Collection’s breadth of interest and depth of exploration guarantee that George Mason University will be a lively center of G&S activity for a long time to come.”

David and Ann reflected, “Our pleasure with the success of the exhibition, forum, and student productions is only enhanced by the knowledge that the Collection has found the perfect permanent home as a resource for scholars and performing artists at Mason.”

From Left to Right: W. S. Gilbert; Arthur Sullivan; Richard D’Oyly Carte; Ernst Perabo, “Iolanthe,” 10 transcriptions for the piano, Geo. Walker & Co., Lithographer, c. 1883. 83 pages



About the David and Annabelle Stone Gilbert and Sullivan Collection

Over the past forty years, David and Ann have built an extensive collection of Gilbert & Sullivan memorabilia that includes manuscripts, books, periodicals, opera libretti, printed music, photographs, posters, programs, recordings, set and costume designs, and other production material and ephemera. On February 22, 2014, David and Ann entered into a donor’s agreement with the George Mason University Foundation. The entire collection will ultimately be transferred to the Special Collections Research Center of the Mason Libraries. David and Ann have also created an endowment for its ongoing support, including cataloging and preserving the collection.

Fenwick Fellow Lecture



On Thursday, April 13, 2017, the Libraries hosted its annual Fenwick Fellow Lecture, featuring 2015-2016 Fenwick Fellow Kristina Olson. Olson is an associate professor in Modern and Classical Languages. Her lecture focused on her book project, *Sumptuous Literature: Clothing and Governance in Fourteenth-Century Italy*.

As mercantile activity increased in Florence and other cities in Italy, so did the proliferation of new wealth among families that did not belong to the aristocracy. One way in which they displayed their change in status was by means of their clothing and jewelry, thereby wearing their newfound gains on their persons. This drastic shift in social markers of status bred envy and confusion: families with long-standing claims to nobility appeared impoverished in comparison with these rising upstarts. Bitter feuding and acts of vengeance between the leading

aristocratic and mercantile families ensued. In order to maintain social order, civic sumptuary legislation targeted various displays of luxury: excessive spending on clothing, jewelry, and rituals, such as funereal practices and exorbitant wedding dowries.

The Fenwick Fellowship is awarded annually to a Mason faculty member to pursue a research project that uses and enhances the University Libraries' resources while advancing knowledge in the faculty member's field.

Mason Author Series

With the George Mason University Bookstore's support, the University Libraries launched the Mason Author Series in conjunction with the grand opening of the new Fenwick Library in March 2016. The goal of the Mason Author Series is to bring together the Mason community for readings, discussion, and dialogue, focused on a recently published work by a Mason faculty member or alumni author.

Since the grand opening, the Libraries has hosted the following faculty and alumni authors:

- *Trees of the Brain, Roots of the Mind* with Professor Giorgio A. Ascoli, Tuesday, March 29, 2016
- *Tropical Conservation* with Professor A. Alonso Aguirre, Monday, September 26, 2016
- *Digital Destiny* with alumnus Shawn DuBravac (MA '04, PhD '14), Thursday, October 13, 2016
- *The Chibok Girls: The Boko Haram Kidnappings and Islamist Militancy in Nigeria* with Professor Helon Habila, Wednesday, April 5, 2017
- *Discovering the South: One Man's Travels Through a Changing America in the 1930s* with Professor Jennifer Ritterhouse, Wednesday, April 26, 2017
- *Playing to the Edge: American Intelligence in the Age of Terror* with General Michael V. Hayden, Thursday, May 4, 2017
- *Free Speech and Unfree News: The Paradox of Press Freedom in America* with Professor Sam Lebovic, Thursday, October 5, 2017
- *Alumni Poets* with Sarah Marcus (MFA '12), Sheila McMullin (MFA '13), Ranjani Murali (MFA '10), Nicole Tong (MFA '07), and Sarah Ann Winn (MFA '14), Friday, October 13, 2017
- *Participation, Community, and Public Policy in a Virginia Suburb* with Patricia Donahue, November 16, 2017



Alexis Bracey, Ayman Fatima, and Elizabeth Perez-Garcia examine items in the Gunston Hall Library & Archives

Librarians Guide Undergraduate Student Research

The Libraries truly function at the heart of the university. Our buildings (on three campuses) are more than a home to books, and the function of the Libraries extends beyond the buildings' walls. Our librarians go out into the classrooms and the field - they are right at the heart of the university experience, helping students and faculty achieve their research goals.

In summer 2017, two of our subject librarians – Steve Gerber, Music, Theater & Philosophy Librarian and George Oberle, History Librarian – played integral roles in substantive undergraduate team research projects, thus directly supporting the university's vision of the Mason

graduate as an engaged citizen and well-rounded scholar who is prepared to act.

Their involvement was fostered by the Libraries' partnership with OSCAR – Mason's Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research – an office dedicated to supporting undergraduate research endeavors. OSCAR's summer Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (URSP) is designed to give undergraduates an authentic research, creative, or scholarly experience under the guidance of a mentor (either by proposing their own research project or applying to be part of a faculty proposed project).

Peter Ritter Chamber Music Performing Edition:

Editing an 18th/19th Century Composer's Music Manuscripts for Contemporary Performance and Open-Access Dissemination

When the Office of Student Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research (OSCAR) expanded its Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (URSP) and invited faculty to propose summer team projects, Steve Gerber, Music Librarian, eagerly jumped at the opportunity to propose a research opportunity for a student team.

He designed a project to transcribe and edit hologram music manuscripts at the Library of Congress, with the end goal to disseminate and perform the completed manuscripts. He found a willing partner to co-lead the team in Jesse Guessford, Associate Professor of Music.

Gerber had noticed that the Library of Congress' Music Division owns over one hundred music manuscripts by Peter Ritter (an eighteenth-nineteenth century German composer). Gerber thought a good focus for the project would be to inspect and resurrect some of Ritter's unpublished and long-forgotten music. The student team of researchers consisted of five music majors from the School of Music: Nathan Graham, Simone Hawkins, Adam Schuman, Karen Smith, and Dylan Van Vierssen.

Gerber's research interests in historical musicology and Guessford's expertise in music technology made them



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Clockwise from upper left:
Nathan Graham, Karen Smith,
Adam Schuman, Simone
Hawkins, Dylan Van Vierssen

the perfect team for the project. To help prepare the students for their work as transcribers and editors of eighteenth-nineteenth century music, the first week of the project was quite intensive – including a crash course on Sibelius music notation software, modern notational conventions, basic editorial principles for deciphering music manuscripts, and culminating in a visit to the Library of Congress, where the team inspected and photographed Ritter's manuscripts.

Over the course of the summer, the students transcribed their selected manuscripts and, after resolving various editorial challenges, created modern performing editions. To share their discoveries about Ritter's music and the editorial process, they created an explanatory research poster, which was exhibited at OSCAR's Celebration of Scholarship event (showcasing all summer teams' research projects) and at the School of Music's Fall 2017 Convocation. Additionally, they performed the pieces at the OSCAR celebration, and they uploaded some of their edited scores to the International Music Score Library Project, an open-access digital repository.

When reflecting on the project, Karen Smith wrote, "I thought I would be a part of a straightforward transcription project: photograph some of this composer's works at the Library of Congress, and turn them into modern sheet music. However, I learned skills I did not expect: how to use a reading room at the Library of Congress, how to transpose scores for both modern and historical instruments, how to work past language barriers in research. I learned how and when to make educated guesses about historical documents. I developed an eye for the many significant differences between compositions for different purposes and different instruments. I learned my way around the best musical and library-related search engines on the Internet."

Of the experience, Gerber says, "It was very gratifying to observe this hardworking team's growing interest in the composer and his music, and their excitement about making it live again, after a silence of two centuries."

Top right: Nathan Graham and Simone Hawkins examine and photograph manuscripts at the Library of Congress



Peter Ritter

Peter Ritter (1763-1846) was a cellist, composer, and conductor who lived and worked in Mannheim, Germany, rising to become Kapellmeister (music director) of the Mannheim National Theater. He was a contemporary of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven. His music, as does theirs, illustrates the transition from classical to early romantic musical styles.

The Library of Congress acquired most of the Ritter manuscripts in their collection in a single lot from a German music dealer in 1911. The 1912 Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress calls this a "remarkable collection of autograph scores...embracing most of his important works." No earlier provenance is known.

The students' transcribed works may be found at http://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Ritter,_Peter.

At the October 2017 Joint Conference of the Atlantic and Greater New York Chapters of the Music Library Association, Steve Gerber spoke about the project. A transcript may be found at <http://mars.gmu.edu/bitstream/handle/1920/10783/MentoringNoviceMusicEditors-SCRIPT.pdf>.

The Enslaved Children of George Mason



The ECGM team with President Cabrera in front of Gunston Hall during the November visit. Clockwise from upper left: Ben Carton, Ángel Cabrera, Wendi Manuel-Scott, Elizabeth Perez-Garcia, Farhaj Murshed, George Oberle, Kye Farrow, Alexis Bracey, and Ayman Fatima

George Oberle, History Librarian, was invited to provide a library research session for the “Enslaved Children of George Mason” (ECGM) summer research team co-directed by Professors Wendi Manuel-Scott and Benedict Carton of the History and Art History department.

This OSCAR USRP project – undertaken by a cross-disciplinary team of five undergraduates: Alexis Bracey, Global Affairs; Kye Farrow, History; Ayman Fatima, Government & International Politics; Elizabeth Perez-Garcia, Criminology, Law & Society; and Farhaj Murshed, Community Health – focused on recovering the hidden stories of people serving our university’s namesake. The ECGM project, which is ongoing after the initial summer term and has taken on a life of its own, seeks to discover the worlds of enslaved African Americans on Mason’s Gunston Hall plantation.

Though Oberle was initially invited for just one session, the directors and team members soon realized his active involvement was invaluable to their project. Carton and Manuel-Scott both view the expertise Oberle provided as central to their project, and the team was struck by how work with the Mason Libraries leads scholars to other libraries. While the most important center of exploration was the Gunston Hall Library & Archives, the scholars soon found themselves combing through additional archival sources at the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center, the Library of Congress, and other repositories. In fact, one of the students undertook a visit to the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library at Colonial Williamsburg, in order to gain more insight and seek relevant records. The motto of Colonial Williamsburg – “that the future may learn from the past” – can just as easily apply to ECGM and other work here at the Libraries. Oberle was asked to collaborate with the group more regularly and was named an assistant director for the project.

Said Oberle of his involvement with the project, “This was a great experience for me. It was rewarding to see the students’ enthusiasm, as well as the faculty members’ appreciation of what the University Libraries can bring to the table in the classroom, through research support as well as scholarly project direction. The Libraries is taking a central role in this ongoing work as we continue to study this important issue and rediscover the lost stories of the enslaved children of George Mason.”

As the students explored the personal life of Mason, they found that the values of universal freedoms that he passionately articulated in the Virginia Declaration of Rights (which provided language for the U.S. Bill of Rights) did not extend to the many enslaved people who worked for him – people who helped further the Mason family’s well-being and status within society. The students asked important questions, guided by their own personal research interests – such as public health, music and dance, space design, commerce, and

the experience of women (both free and enslaved) – which can be found at the ECGM project website, <http://ecgm.omeka.net/>.

The summer may have passed, but the exploration continues. After learning about the project and meeting the students, Mason’s President Ángel Cabrera expressed an interest in visiting the site and learning more about the importance of their historical work to the university, Virginia, and beyond. On November 4, 2017, President Cabrera joined the directors and the original ECGM team for a visit to Gunston Hall. Manuel-Scott said, “A really dynamic element of the project was the way in which we reimagined the space of Gunston Hall, the place itself. The students were invested in exploring how the enslaved moved around Gunston Hall, instead of focusing on the Mason family’s life there. Our students explored how spaces such as the forest might have functioned as a locus for the enslaved to gather, cry, weep, celebrate, even love.”



From left to right: Elizabeth Perez-Garcia, Ayman Fatima, Wendi Manuel-Scott, Ben Carton, Kye Farrow, Alexis Bracey, and Farhaj Murshed at OSCAR’s Celebration of Scholarship



Rebecca Martin, Director of Education and Guest Experiences at Gunston Hall, talks to members of the ECGM team visiting the Mason family home during the summer

OER Metafinder Launch – Goes Viral!

Making courses affordable for students is important to the university and thanks to George Mason University Libraries, there's now a new tool for helping instructors identify and evaluate the universe of freely-accessible, Open Educational Resources (OERs) on the internet: the Mason OER Metafinder (MOM), spearheaded by Wally Grotophorst, Associate University Librarian for Digital Programs and Systems at Mason.

Launched in Fall 2017, the Mason OER Metafinder is having a measurable impact, and there are already well over 170 libraries, colleges, and universities linking directly to the Metafinder to help their faculty locate useful OER materials. A recent *Inside HigherEd* article focusing on discovery of freely-accessible teaching materials called the Mason OER Metafinder “a new kid on the block” that “yields more diverse results.”

Oberle, who received his PhD from Mason, is leading an undergraduate honors course this spring – HNRS 353: The Legacies of George Mason – which focuses on the Mason family from the seventeenth into the nineteenth century. The student researchers have examined reports and documents related to infanticide trials, Potomac commercial trade, disease records concerning smallpox and yellow fever, manumission, and free blacks purchasing liberty for enslaved individuals.

Discussing his current class, Oberle said “Learning from the past is still relevant today. If you could see these students while working, what you would have seen – if you get the right relevant topic – is how it comes alive for students... how important the past is and how understanding the past relates to and affects our present.”

Carton says, “Taking the next steps with this Honors class this semester is crucial to the project. Oberle’s own scholarly work in early American history and his library expertise are important and appreciated by the History department.” Further reflecting on the project as a whole, he says, “George Mason is a prominent figure, with a prominent statue on campus. We want that statue to remain, but we also want students to feel that they have contributed to the narrative of our university’s namesake

and that they will continue to search for Mason's fullness as a human being in his time. That fullness contains the lives of others who made it possible for our namesake to accomplish what he is known for, the 'others' in this case being the people without freedom, the people without rights."

Part of the legacy is the establishment of an initiative housed in the Libraries, a partnership between the Libraries and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) to continue the work. Not only Oberle's involvement in the project but the Libraries place at the heart of the university and place of records makes it a natural fit. The George Mason University Press, also part of the Libraries, worked with Gunston Hall to update and publish a second edition of *The Five George Masons: Patriots and Planters of Virginia and Maryland* in 2016. The Libraries' Special Collection Research Center houses a rare late eighteenth century manuscript with handwritten entries by members of George Mason's family, as well as some letters.

The goal is not to detract but expand the legacy of George Mason in its many avenues. Of potential things that may come to light, Carton notes that "truth and reconciliation lead to healing... in this case, healing through the act of discovery and generating knowledge."

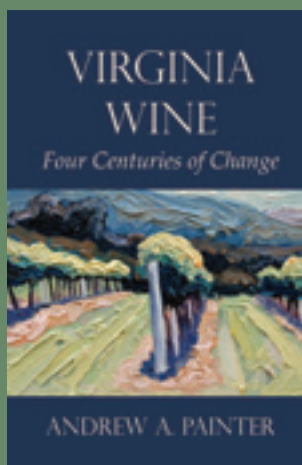
Manuel-Scott concurs, "Going into this project – for me – was never about belittling the legacy of George Mason but about celebrating the humanity of the enslaved people. It was a way to recognize how we think about the founding fathers and their contribution to freedom, while considering enslaved people's role in expressing what freedom meant through the ingenious ways they resisted, retained their culture, and created new cultural practices about marriage, religion, and death. They may not have penned documents about freedom but freedom was lived and expressed through their bodies and relationships."

George Mason University Press

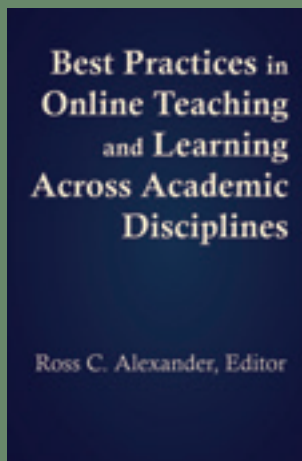
The GMU Press released three titles,
November 2017 – January 2018:



Playfair: The True Story of the British Secret Agent Who Changed How We See the World
Bruce Berkowitz



Virginia Wine: Four Centuries of Change
Andrew A. Painter



Best Practices in Online Teaching and Learning Across Academic Disciplines
Ross C. Alexander, Editor

Jessica Bowdoin Receives Distinguished Faculty Award



Jessica Bowdoin receives Distinguished Library Faculty Award from Provost S. David Wu

Jessica Bowdoin, Head, Access Services, was the recipient of the 2017 Distinguished Library Faculty Award – an acknowledgement by her peers of her enthusiastic and tireless efforts during her twelve years at the Mason Libraries.

Her record has been described as truly embodying the academic support and service mission of the Libraries. John Zenelis, Dean of Libraries and University Librarian, noted that Bowdoin's "considerable professional acumen directly impacts and furthers the learning and research of George Mason University's students and faculty."

Bowdoin is deeply knowledgeable about resource sharing best practices and has situated herself as a go-to expert about all aspects of interlibrary loan. Her broad experience and technical problem-solving abilities are recognized by her professional peers within Virginia academic libraries and

the Washington Research Libraries Consortium. Possessing in-depth knowledge of interlibrary loan tools, procedures, licensing, and applicable copyright laws, she is frequently sought out to serve on inter-institutional committees or task forces dealing with resource sharing initiatives.

"With a constant focus on operational efficiencies and productivity," says Dean Zenelis, "Jessica and her staff make George Mason University one of the largest net lenders of materials in all academic library consortia that Mason participates in – enhancing the Mason Libraries' reputation throughout." She is widely known for assisting Mason students and faculty to obtain the research materials they require, locating extremely obscure literature with only the most minimal bibliographic information and often in foreign languages.

One major and extraordinary achievement spearheaded by Bowdoin was the library collections move into the new Fenwick Library in January 2016. She carefully planned with precision this monumental undertaking, and oversaw the successful move of over one million items into the new library space. This was an enormously complex project, involved many moving parts, and a short turnaround time. That this was accomplished with little interruption to services speaks volumes to Bowdoin's diligence, preparedness and planning, organization and implementation skills.

Among her library colleagues, Bowdoin has a well-earned reputation for her ability to undertake and complete major tasks and initiatives. As one of her nominators observed, "her ability to make things happen and get things done is unparalleled." This general theme is an apt descriptor of Bowdoin's overall contributions to the Mason Libraries – all characterized by her constant focus on how the library can serve students and faculty fully and in a timely manner.

The award was presented to Bowdoin at Mason's Celebration of Teaching Excellence ceremony on April 17, 2017.

Library Faculty And Staff Service Recognition

Congratulations to the Libraries' faculty and staff who were recognized for their years of service to George Mason University and/or the Commonwealth of Virginia! The recipients were presented with their awards on April 6 and April 7, 2017 at the University Day Service Awards celebrations.



Jamie Coniglio and Kathleen Kehoe are recognized for their 25 years of service to George Mason University

25 years: David Alexander, Access Services, Research and Educational Services; Jamie Coniglio, Engagement and Organizational Development, Research and Educational Services; Kathleen Kehoe, Development, Office of the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

15 years: Jessica Bowdoin, Access Services, Research and Educational Services; Friedgard Cowan, Resource Description & Metadata Services, Technical Services Group; Allison O'Connor, Teaching and Learning Services, Gateway Library; Vittoria Perrone, Access Services, Research and Educational Services; Kevin Sanders, Administrative Services, Office of the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

10 years: Jessica Clark, Development and Communications, Office of the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian; Claudia Holland, Scholarly Communications and Copyright, Mason Publishing Group; Denise Klasen-Lopez, Teaching and Learning Services, Gateway Library

5 years: Lynn Eaton, Special Collections Research Center, Resources and Collection Management Services; Kimberley Edwards, Information Analysis, Technical Services Group; Royce Gildersleeve, Teaching and Learning Services, Gateway Library; Debby Kermer, Data Services Group, Digital Programs and Systems; Tricia Mackenzie, Resource Description & Metadata Services, Technical Services Group; Leigh Ann Skeen, Collection Development, Resources and Collection Management Services; Stephanie Smith, Collection Development, Resources and Collection Management Services

Libraries' Staff Excellence Award

The Staff Excellence Award is a semi-annual award presented to library staff member(s) in recognition of their outstanding contribution to fostering an environment of collegiality and teamwork, and ensuring library services exceed faculty and student expectations.



Our 2017 recipients were: Katara Wright Hofmann, Information Services (pictured above, right) and Jib Vititpongs, Resource Description & Metadata Services (pictured above, left).

Talking to History: Veterans Look Back on the Cuban Missile Crisis

On October 24, 2017, the Libraries hosted “Talking to History: Veterans Look Back on the Cuban Missile Crisis.”

This event, which was recorded to become part of our Oral History Project, was funded by the special project grant we received from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). Three OLLI members - Bob Persell, Garrett Cochran, and Ray Beery (pictured middle, from left to right) - who were veterans of the Cuban Missile Crisis participated in a panel discussion moderated by Martin J. Sherwin (pictured bottom right), University Professor of History, and fellow veteran. Following the panel discussion, attendees visited the Special Collections Research Center to view Cuban Missile Crisis-related items from our collections.



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The Libraries at Mason

Jessica Clark, Editor

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