Dear Colleagues,

We've completed yet another academic and fiscal year successfully. Many thanks and appreciation to all for the many advancements in the Libraries, and for the high quality of library services and programs contributing to and enabling the work of Mason’s faculty, students, administrators and staff.

As usual, this issue of this Letter highlights accomplishments within University Libraries during the past quarter. Congratulations to all those noted in the following pages for their individual or collective achievements.

I would like to note that the title for my position was changed recently to Dean of Libraries and University Librarian.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful summer!

DISTINGUISHED LIBRARY FACULTY AWARD

Robert (Bob) Vay, Digital Collections & Exhibitions Archivist, Special Collections & Archives, was selected as the first recipient of Mason Libraries’ Distinguished Library Faculty Award. Criteria for the new award include exemplary and enduring professional performance, as well as consequential contributions within the University Libraries, the University and the broader academic and scholarly community. External professional colleagues as well as Mason librarians, faculty, and staff nominated Bob for his skills and sharing his knowledge of Mason and Northern Virginia through his varied presentations, publications, and exhibitions. On Monday, April 21, 2014, former University Provost Peter Stearns presented the inaugural award to Bob during the 2014 Celebration of Teaching at the Center for the Arts, Fairfax Campus. Congratulations!

Welcome to the Libraries!

Research & Educational Services
Access Services, Fenwick Library
Andrew Johnson, Evening/Weekend Access Services Assistant
Teaching & Learning Services, Gateway Library
Todd Stafford, Distance Education Assistant

Resources & Collection Management Services
Special Collections & Archives
Eerik Hakala, Records Management Specialist
Technical Services Group
New Role
Tricia Mackenzie, Head, Resource Description & Metadata Services
The present primary passageway in Fenwick Library has always been a hub of constant activity. The location of the card catalog also served a dual purpose when Wings B&C were added. The card catalog space became the connecting corridor to the elevators and stacks. As implementation of library automation increased, the catalog was retired and the space morphed into rows of OPACs, followed in time by PC workstations. Relocation of the PCs in 2013 led to the idea to recast the hallway into another active public space: Fenwick Gallery.

After several months of physical preparation, creating space management and exhibitor policies and procedures, initiating an academic partnership with the School of Art’s MFA program (and assorted other adventures along the way), Fenwick Gallery is a hybrid, walk-through exhibition space that enhances an atmosphere of scholarship and inquiry. Rooted in the Mason Libraries’ mission, the purpose of Fenwick Gallery is to enrich the intellectual, educational, and cultural life of the University. Highlighting library collections in conjunction with original visual and multi-media work, exhibit themes specifically include relevant library resources and exposure to the curricular and research interests of Mason faculty, staff and students, as well as local cultural initiatives. Fenwick Gallery’s first show opened in April and was coordinated by Jenna Rinalducci, Art & Visual Technology Liaison Librarian, who manages and develops the Gallery. Many thanks to the following library staff: Diane Smith, Susan Stockwell, Della Patrick, Jamie Coniglio, Kevin Sanders, Phat Le, Debra Hogan, Pierre Davis; School of Art faculty Vikki Salmon, Linda Miller and Helen Frederick as well as Mason Facilities’ Carpenter, Electrical and Paint Shops for their collaboration and partnership in creating Fenwick Gallery.
Fenwick Gallery’s initial exhibit, Women’s Visions / Women’s Voices, was a successful “soft launch” of the space. On display April through June 2014, the show was curated by Ceci Cole McInturff, Graduate Research Assistant, Research Services Department, Fenwick Library, and featured art created by Mason students and alumnae as well as regional, national and international artists.
Research & Professional Activities

Anne Driscoll, Education Liaison Librarian, Research Services Department, Fenwick Library. Editorial Board member and consultant, *Journal of Mason Graduate Research*, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, 2014.


Research Leave

Recommended by the Librarians’ Council Professional Development Committee, the following librarians were awarded Summer research leave by the University Librarian:

Tina Adams, Distance Education Librarian, to prepare two encyclopedia articles (one on e-Journals and one on distance education) for submission to the *Encyclopedia of Online Education*.

Jason Byrd, Learning Technologies Librarian, Gateway Library and Kathy Butler, Science & Psychology Liaison Librarian, Research Services Department, Fenwick Library to jointly prepare an article for either *College & Research Libraries* or *Reference & User Services Quarterly* about the effectiveness of research consultations with librarians.
During April and May 2014, Mason Libraries organized and sponsored several activities to recognize and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Virginia’s most prominent planned community: Reston.

**SYMPOSIUM**
*Reston at 50: Looking Back at Forward Thinking – A Symposium on Diversity, Planning, Preservation & 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 Dr. Wendi Manuel-Scott, Director, African & African-American Studies, George Mason University, the symposium featured several panel presentations by Mason faculty and students. Ms. Lindsey Bestebreurtje, doctoral candidate, Department of History & 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 & Archives Librarian, Special Collections & Archives and doctoral student, Department of History & Art History, highlighted the history of the Planned Community Archives, a research collection developed by the Reston community and donated to the George Mason University Libraries. Professor Zachary M. Schrag, Professor of U.S. History, Department of History & Art History, introduced four undergraduate student scholars selected to present their research on Reston history. *Reston at 50: Looking Back at Forward Thinking* was co-sponsored by the Reston Museum and Historic Trust, and was presented with the generous support of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.

**PRESERVATION WEEK**
To observe Preservation Week, Special Collections & Archives and the Libraries’ Preservation Department created an exhibit on Reston@50, which explored the history of Reston and the basics of preserving Mason’s Reston collections.

**DIGITAL EXHIBIT & COMMEMORATIVE CATALOG**
In 1987, Mason Libraries’ relationship with the founders of Reston started with the deposit of the Planned Community Archives collection (PCA) in Special Collections & 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 & 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 one hundred exhibit items from the University Libraries’ Reston collections.

Special Collections & Archives also compiled and produced “Reston, Virginia Collections,” a 24-page illustrated catalog describing more than 30 archival collections documenting Reston and its development from 1960 to 2010.
Library Faculty Promotions & Renewals

Promotions in Rank
- Sally Evans, University Dissertation & Thesis Coordinator, Librarian II
- Tricia Mackenzie, Head, Resource Description & Metadata Services, Librarian II
- Jordan Patty, Manuscripts & Archives Librarian, Librarian III

Appointment Renewals
- Joe Becker, Head, Resource Acquisition, Librarian II
- Lara Bushallow, Head, Systems Group, Librarian III
- Kathleen Butler, Science & Psychology Liaison Librarian, Librarian II
- Jason Byrd, Learning Technologies Librarian, Librarian II
- Jamie Coniglio, Head, Research Services, Fenwick Library, Librarian III
- Ian Fairclough, Cataloging & Metadata Librarian, Librarian III
- David Gibbs, Head, Collection Development & Preservation, Librarian II
- Heather Groves Hannan, Head, Mercer Library, Librarian III
- Jo Ann Henson, Business & Economics Liaison Librarian, Librarian II
- Claudia Holland, Head, Scholarly Communication & Copyright Resources, Librarian III
- Janna Mattson, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian, Mercer Library, Librarian II
- Mary Oberlies, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian, Arlington Campus Library, Librarian I
- Beth Roszkowski, Head, Arlington Campus Library, Librarian II

CONGRATULATIONS!

University Service Awards

Library faculty & staff received service awards on April 9 & 10, 2014

20 Years
- Danny Gomez, Resource Description & Metadata Services
- Bob Vay, Special Collections & Archives

15 Years
- Theresa Kan, Mercer Library, Prince William Campus
- Heather Leadingham, Resource Description & Metadata Services
- Della Patrick, Administrative Services
- John Zenelis, Office of the University Librarian

10 Years
- Debra Hogan, Office of the University Librarian
- Christopher Magee, Research Services, Fenwick Library

5 Years
- Betsy Appleton, Collection Development & Preservation
- Josh Clark, Systems Group
- Ian Fairclough, Resource Description & Metadata Services
- Mark Hoban, CLS/ILL/Reserves, Access Services, Fenwick Library
- Laura Jenemann, Teaching & Learning Services, Gateway Library
- Kara Kiblinger, Teaching & Learning Services, Gateway Library
- Elena Landry, Research Services, Fenwick Library
- Taneisha Mazyck, Access Services, Gateway Library
Variations on a Theme: End of the Semester Research Events

- Arlington Campus Library: Graduate Research & Writing Retreat

ACL’s first Graduate Research & Writing Retreat was held on Monday, April 28, from 3:00 pm–10:00 pm. Held in the ACL Instruction Room, the Research Retreat offered students a quiet place to work on final papers, and also provided reference and research staff, writing tutors and data consultants to answer research, writing, and data questions. Students registered for the event, and could stay for the whole time or as long as they wanted assistance and/or quiet time to work.

- Fenwick Library: Crunch Time Research Lab

Fenwick Research Services staff offered space and staff at drop-in sessions held Monday through Friday, 3:00pm–5:00pm, April 14–May 2 (crunch timel!). Using the Fenwick Instruction Room as the “lab,” students received assistance with finishing (or starting) research projects, citation formatting, Zotero and more.

- Gateway Library@Johnson Center: Research Write-Ins

Gateway Library Teaching & Learning Services staff, Mason’s Writing Center, and Mason’s Office of Scholarship, Creative Activities, and Research (OSCAR) sponsored two Undergraduate Research & Write-In sessions on April 24, 3:00 pm–8:00 pm and May 2, Noon–5:00 pm. Gateway Library and Mason Writing Center staff were available during each Research Write-In to assist undergrads with specific research and writing needs in a structured environment.

Arlington Campus Library Used Book & Media Drive

- Turning the Page, a nonprofit organization engaging and empowering parents of D.C. public school students, raises funds for their programs through donations and sales of items of all genres for all age groups. To support the group’s efforts, Arlington Campus Library collected used books, CDs and DVDs April 28 through May 15, 2014.

New Website Unveiled

- During the course of Spring Semester 2014, the Libraries’ website was redesigned, revised and revamped into a more user-friendly site. The new site was unveiled on May 22, 2014. Web Team members include: Andrew Stevens, Allison O’Connor, Christine Cheng, Mary Oberlies, Debby Kermer, Jason Byrd, chair, and Michelle Polchow.

Zotero Workshop at Library of Congress

- Contacted by the Library of Congress’ Office of Scholarly Programs, Chris Magee, Research & Instruction Specialist, Research Services Department, Fenwick Library, conducted a Zotero workshop for a group of eight Fellows at the Library’s prominent John Kluge Center on May 1, 2014.

Special Collections & Archives

- Mason Libraries’ Special Collections & Archives is now home to a three-volume set of the “Complete Works of John Locke,” published in 1714. Locke’s work directly influenced George Mason; in turn, Mason’s understanding of Locke led to George Mason preparing the Virginia Declaration of Rights, which influenced the Bill of Rights. (Locke’s name is on the spine of the second book in the stack on the table of the George Mason statue near the Johnson Center.) Yvonne Carignan, Head, Special Collections & Archives, received the books on behalf of the Libraries in a brief ceremony at the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville in May. Read more.