

Friendscript

Building Project Moving Ahead

As 2019 opens, plans for the Library building project are kicking into gear.



Last fall, Dean John Wilkin put forth a vision of a reconceptualized Library space that would establish a collections-centered research hub for the humanities and social sciences, and restyle the Undergraduate Library as a home for special collections (see *Friendscript*, Fall 2018). As plans emerge to replace the problematic, older portions of the Main Library stacks, Wilkin asserts that the highest priority of the massive restructuring will be “a commitment to collections” and the continuation of the Library’s “long history of engagement with faculty and students.”

Since then, efforts have crystallized around four initial steps: conversations or “salons” with faculty and graduate students; creation of a campuswide committee to oversee the project; consultations with a special collections expert: and, soon, conversations with design and architectural firms.

Held throughout the fall, Wilkin’s five salons gathered campus feedback on his proposal. “We didn’t try to engineer those dialogues,” he said of the exchange, noting that this was the first time the Library had sent an open email invitation to every faculty member. No one was turned away, and approximately a dozen people attended each session. While most participants came from the humanities and social sciences, professors from dance, chemistry, mathematics, and computer science also pitched in.

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Friendscript is a publication of the Office of Library Advancement, 1408 West Gregory Drive, Room 227, Urbana, IL 61801. Ideas and suggestions are always welcome and should be submitted to Heather Murphy at hmurphy@illinois.edu or (217) 333-3758.

The Office of Library Advancement garners interest and secures external funds from Illinois alumni and friends, provides visibility for the Library through its programs and events, and promotes the Library within the Illinois campus and the community-at-large.

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This publication is available in an accessible electronic format at www.library.illinois.edu/friends, or you may contact Heather Murphy to request an alternative format of this publication.

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John Wilkin

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Building Project, *continued from page 1*

“We had these vigorous and open discussions,” Wilkin said, “and in the process, our faculty made clear” what they valued. “We heard those voices,” he said, “and those things will go into the planning.”

Themes or wants that emerged included a robust, browsable print collection and a strong relationship with departmental libraries. Space was sought for co-working among graduate students; for reservable, shared consultations; and for seminars, exhibits, events, and collaboration near the stacks. Participants also suggested focused support and activities around themes or topical areas, as well as opportunities such as those available in the Scholarly Commons, which offers a blend of collections and high-end technology and support.

In early 2019, Wilkin, the Provost, and the Vice Chancellor for Research will appoint a campuswide committee, primarily comprising faculty from key disciplines served by the Main Library. This group will ensure that the Library—described by Wilkin as “a significant, 150-year investment the University has made”—will “do this next thing right.”

The new year will also see the receipt of a report from the University of Minnesota’s Director of Special Collections, Kris Kiesling, who was engaged as a consultant to analyze the feasibility of moving the Library’s special collections into the Undergraduate Library space. In the early part of the year, talks will begin with architectural and design firms on how to incorporate faculty needs into the renovation, and how to stage the process in order to maintain access to collections and services during the renovation.

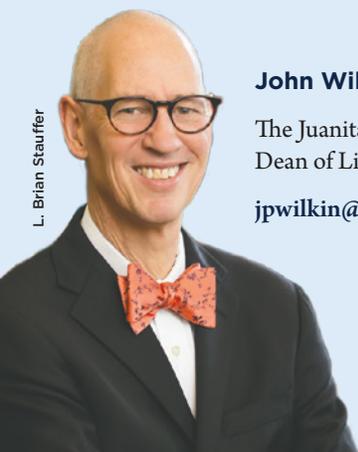
The project has already garnered donor support, including a large anonymous donation, as well as a major gift from Library Friend Hal Balbach, MS ’61 LAS, PHD ’65 LAS. Believing that “the way research and education is being conducted is changing dramatically,” Balbach foresees the Library continuing to adapt to bolster new research avenues. Active fundraising for the project will begin this year.

To keep up with renovation news, or to find answers to questions, visit the Building Project website at library.illinois.edu/library-building-project/. The renovation is slated for completion by December 2024.

Will the Library need to remove volumes or decrease the size of the collection in the Main Library?

There are no plans to decrease the size of the collection to fit into the proposed facility. Retention and collection management decisions are governed by the aforementioned policies.* The University Library is committed to preserving collections and sharing them generously with our local and consortial patrons.

*To view the policies that govern the management and deduplication of collections, to find out what items are in the collections and where they are housed, and for other frequently asked questions, please visit library.illinois.edu/library-building-project/faqs.



Brilliant Scholars' Resources Now Online

Thanks to the generosity of Library Friends, rare documents of two prominent scholars are available online.

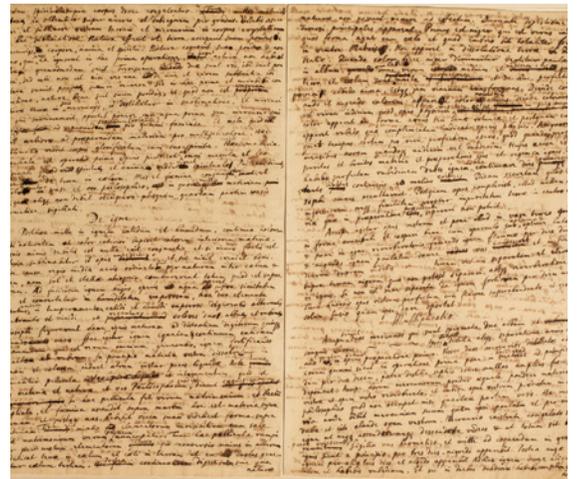
Last spring, *Friendscript* detailed the University's purchase of an original manuscript of Sir Isaac Newton. Acquired through a gift from Jim and Lionelle Elsesser of St. Louis, *Opus Galli Anonymi* presents the renowned scientist's Latin translation of French instructions for making the philosopher's stone. The manuscript was on public view at a Rare Book & Manuscript Library event on November 16; the digitized version, which was unveiled that same day, may be seen at go.library.illinois.edu/NewtonManuscript.

"We are very proud graduates of Illinois," said Lionelle, "and deeply appreciate the excellence of the Library and its staff. The Newton document is an excellent fit with the rare book collection of Newton materials, as well as with the international profile of the University."

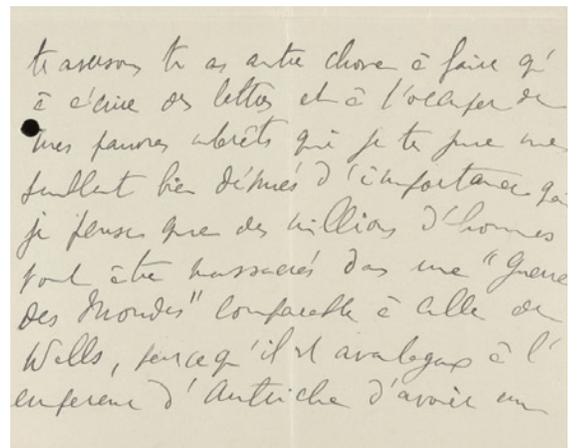
Yet another fascinating resource now online are the World War I letters of French writer Marcel Proust. The Corr-Proust website, whose first phase was jump-started by a donation from Bill and Joan Dutton of Chicago, debuted in November and is viewable at www.corr-proust.org. The University of Illinois holds a stellar reputation in Proust scholarship due to the lifelong research of UI French professor Philip Kolb, who dedicated himself to organizing the Library's vast repository of Proust letters (the largest in the world). Overseeing the project are UI French Professor Francois Proulx and Caroline Szyłowicz, the Kolb-Proust Librarian and Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts.

The Duttons were delighted to support the venture, which coalesced several interests: the couple's combined fondness for literature and libraries, along with alumnus Bill's attachment to the University. Most significantly, "we liked the idea of doing something," said Bill, "that has to do with a great passion of Joan's"—her fascination with Proust.

A joint endeavor between the University and academic partners in France, the long-term project looks to develop a crowdsourcing tool to translate all of the letters into English and other languages, as well as the addition of text, notes, images, and other information.



The digitized version of Newton's manuscript is now online.



One of the many WWI letters written by Proust which is accessible through the new Corr-Proust website.

Upcoming Events

Rare Book & Manuscript Library Events

All events in RBML, 346 Main Library, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Making Mr. Darcy: Cultural Context for the Regency Gentleman

Spring Exhibition Opening

◆ February 21

The Volcano Lover, Sir William Hamilton and the Craze for Vesuvius

Lecture by Professor Gillen Wood

◆ March 8

Moms Weekend Spring Open House

◆ April 5

Shakespeare's Birthday Celebration with Lecture by Lori Newcomb

◆ April 23

#ColorOurCollections Open House

◆ May 2

Gwendolyn Brooks's Birthday Celebration

◆ June 7

Visit
library.illinois.edu/rbx
for full Rare Book & Manuscript Library event descriptions

Millionth Volumes Exhibit Now on Display



With each millionth book purchased by the University Library, tradition demands that a specially selected volume commemorate the milestone.

The public can now review a compilation of these 14 significant pieces in a new display in the North-South corridor of the Main Library. Mounted directly across from the Bronze Tablets, the exhibit features an image and short description of each volume. More detailed explanations of these rare gems are available in give-away booklets that accompany the display; an online version of the text is at go.library.illinois.edu/millionthvolumes.

The compelling showcase is the brainchild of Paul Lisnek, '80 LAS, MA '80 LAS, JD '83 LAW, PHD '86 LAS, who funded the project as part of his donation of the Library's 14 millionth volume—*The University of Illinois, Engine of Innovation*, a 2017 publication marking the sesquicentennial of the Urbana-Champaign campus. Lisnek, a multi-E Emmy, Cablefax, Telly, and Beacon Award-winning television host and analyst, enthusiastically backed the proposal for two reasons: to express his thanks for what the Library and University had done for him and to create a “fitting and lasting tribute” honoring “one of the largest libraries in the nation.”

The Millionth Volumes Exhibit was unveiled at a Library Friends event on October 26, 2018, and installed in November.

Upcoming Events, continued



We encourage you to visit the Library's online calendar at go.library.illinois.edu/calendar for the most up-to-date information about events happening in and around the libraries at Illinois.

NEA Big Read: *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest. The NEA Big Read in Champaign-Urbana will focus on *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri, published in 2003 (and adapted into a feature film in 2006). The Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. This local partnership linking campus, Champaign, and Urbana is one of 79 nonprofit organizations to receive an NEA Big Read grant to host a community reading program in the winter of 2019. The International and Area Studies Library is a proud program partner.

- ◆ January 27–March 10
- ◆ For more information and to view the program schedule (all events are free and open to the public), visit go.illinois.edu/theNamesake

Borderline

This free screening of *Borderline*, a 1930 silent film with Paul and Eslanda Robeson (directed by Kenneth Macpherson), features the Chicago Modern Orchestra Project (directed by Renée Baker). Baker is an accomplished Chicago composer and founding director of the Chicago Modern Orchestra Project.

- ◆ February 24, 3:00 p.m.
- ◆ Foellinger Auditorium, 709 S. Mathews Avenue, Urbana
- ◆ Visit sousaarchives.org

HackCulture Final Presentations

Students will present final projects developed during HackCulture, an interdisciplinary hackathon aimed at introducing students to concepts surrounding data. During the four-week hackathon, students will attend workshops and complete mini-challenges on topics such as data literacy, data cleaning, data analysis, and data visualization and communication. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

- ◆ March 1, 5:30 p.m.
- ◆ School of Information Sciences, Room 126, 501 E. Daniel Street, Champaign
- ◆ Visit go.library.illinois.edu/calendar

Youth Literature Festival Community Day Celebration

Celebrate youth literature at Community Day. The Celebration, part of the Youth Literature Festival co-sponsored by the College of Education and the University Library, is free and open to the public. Author readings, book signings, all-day puppet shows, live music, art displays, and a variety of hands-on activities for children will all be part of the fun!

- ◆ March 30, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
- ◆ I-Hotel and Conference Center, 1900 S. First Street, Champaign
- ◆ Visit youthlitfest.education.illinois.edu

Dean Appoints Associate University Librarians



As of November 1, Dean John Wilkin appointed two new associate university librarians: Heidi Imker and Chris Prom.



As the Associate University Librarian for Research, Imker shapes the Library's evolving role in research on campus through leading the Office of Research, whose units include the Scholarly Commons, Research Data Service, and Scholarly Communication and Publishing. These entities support researchers' needs as digital and computational tools and methods gain adoption and as scholarly norms change around open publication and data. In her role, Imker establishes and maintains robust relationships with other schools and colleges within the University to ensure these emerging areas of library service uniquely address critical needs. She also coordinates grant-funded activities within the Library.

As Associate University Librarian for Digital Strategies, Prom helps set a vision for technology services and fosters an inclusive digital services culture. His portfolio includes Library IT, User Experience, Discovery and Delivery, Preservation and Conservation (including Digital Preservation/Digital Library activities), and the Rare Book & Manuscript Library. Prom also assists the Library in academic affairs issues, such as appointments and faculty development.

Imker's term runs until August 2021, with Prom's ending in August 2022.

Dole Joins Library Advancement

The Office of Library Advancement welcomes Hannah Dole as the newest addition to its team.



Rachael Schirano

On January 1, Dole took on the role of Assistant Director of Advancement for Stewardship and Donor Relations. As such, she creates and implements policies, procedures, and practices regarding gift management, and devises events, programs, and messaging that increase the engagement of alumni and friends with the Library.

"We're excited to have Hannah start," said Scott Koeneman, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Advancement. "She brings with her a lot of both on-campus and external experience, and we hope she can help us take our donor relations and stewardship efforts to a new level."

Prior to joining the Library, Dole served as Event Coordinator at Allerton Park & Retreat Center and as Operations Manager at the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra.

"One of my greatest joys is connecting with new people and establishing relationships through events that advance the mission of an institution," said Dole, who earned a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Illinois in 2013.

ReMix It Competition Awards Ceremony

On January 1, 2019, all work published in the United States in 1923 entered the public domain. The Re-Mix It Competition celebrates the expansion of the public domain by encouraging students to engage with public domain works to create new, innovative work.

- ◆ April 5, 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
- ◆ Room 220, Main Library
- ◆ Visit go.illinois.edu/remixit

14th Annual C-U Edible Book Festival

Participants celebrate the book arts and create edible books that are exhibited, documented, and then consumed. Check out the website or follow the event page on Facebook for details as they are announced.

- ◆ April 6, 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ Lincoln Square Mall, 201 Lincoln Square, Urbana
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/ediblebooks or [facebook.com/CUEdibleBooks](https://www.facebook.com/CUEdibleBooks)

Zine and Comic Festival

- ◆ April 13, 10:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
- ◆ Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center, 202 S. Broadway Avenue, Urbana
- ◆ Visit go.library.illinois.edu/calendar

Yeshimabeit Milner Visit

The Scholarly Commons is planning a visit in mid-April by Yeshimabeit Milner, the co-founder of Data for Black Lives. D4BL brings together mathematicians and activists to improve the lives of black people in the United States. Please check the Library's online calendar for details of her public talk on April 16.

- ◆ April 16–17
- ◆ Visit go.library.illinois.edu/calendar

To fund one of these items or to ask for additional titles in an area of interest, call (217) 333-5682 or email klsimmns@illinois.edu. A listing of items in need is located online at library.illinois.edu/friends/library-is-looking-for.

Library Is Looking For



\$500 for *Lucian Freud* (Phaidon, 2018), a comprehensive two-volume work that gorgeously showcases nearly 500 illustrations by the celebrated British artist. More

than a mere analysis of the painter's work, the publication reveals insights into the man himself, who ranked among the most noted portraitists of the 20th century and whose lineage included famed psychologist Sigmund Freud (a grandfather). Sought by the **Ricker Library of Architecture and Art**, the piece is a collaboration between David Dawson, director of the Lucian Freud Archive (and for two decades Freud's assistant, model, and friend); author Martin Gayford; and editor Mark Holborn.



\$1,900 for a DJI Mavic 2 Pro Drone, whose built-in technology lets users capture HD footage and wide-angle pictures from aerial and

straight-on views—all from a safe distance on the ground. Where does this drone hope to land? In the **Media Commons** of the Undergraduate Library.



\$2,200 for a Cintiq Pro Creative Pen Display to augment the **Media Commons'** trove of emerging technology items. If you are

a student using software like CAD, Photoshop, Illustrator, and other 3D and drawing software, this device allows you to draw directly on the screen with extreme precision. Digital projects result in 4K resolution with 98 percent color accuracy—ensuring that creations appear just as vibrant off-screen as they do on-screen.



\$3,500 for an Insta360 Camera with 512GB SD Card. "Versatility" is the key word here, as this nifty camera—whether handheld or mounted—captures 360-degree HD

video and pictures of its surroundings. As part of the loanable technology program at the Undergraduate Library's **Media Commons**, this modern-age "Brownie" allows users to edit, focus on, or stabilize video—all conveniently within the use of the Insta360 app.

\$5,000 for a large-format scanner for sizable items such as posters and maps. Georeferencing data thus retrieved could then be used in GIS (geographic information systems) software. The item is sought by the **Scholarly Commons**.

The following donors have adopted items, some of which were previously listed in *Friendscript*:

Nancy and Daniel Balz to purchase a task chair (Music and Performing Arts Library)

Jonathan Buchbinder for *Andy Warhol: Catalogue Raisonne, Volume 5, Paintings 1976–1978* (Ricker Library of Architecture and Art)

Steve Ditman to help conserve the Alton Telegraph Printer's Scrapbook (Rare Book & Manuscript Library)

Ross Erlebacher and Susan Silver for a pamphlet from Alton in 1856 by a farmer and political activist on the slavery question and political parties (Illinois History and Lincoln Collections)

Susan Ross for a 1732 voyageur's contract, dated May 22, 1732, between Joseph Leduc and sieur Joseph Desruisseaux, signed in Montreal, "accepting to undertake the voyage from this city to the post of the Illinois" (Illinois History and Lincoln Collections)

Rosemary and Bhagat Singh for a 1732 voyageur's contract regarding a fur trader's trip from Montreal, Canada, to Illinois by canoe (Illinois History and Lincoln Collections)

New Donor Wall



A new donor wall recognizes those Library Friends who have given a gift of \$25,000 or more to the University Library during the campus-wide With Illinois fundraising campaign. The special display, located near the Grand Staircase in the Main Library, was acknowledged at the Library Friends reception on October 26, 2018.

The donor wall was created for the Library by Taylor Studios. The design was inspired by the tree imagery that appears on the exterior of the Main Library building above the east entrance.



Taylor Studios, Inc.

Library Friends

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Annual gifts strengthen the Library and ensure its standing as one of the world's preeminent public university collections. We invite you to join this tradition of private support, which makes a critical difference in the quality of the Library's collections, programs, and services.

Please mail this form with your gift to:

University of Illinois
Foundation
P.O. Box 3429
Champaign, IL 61826-9916

Questions? Please call (217) 333-5682 or e-mail friends@library.illinois.edu.



Yes! I want to help ensure the Library's excellence with a gift to the Library Annual Fund.

Enclosed is my gift of: \$50 \$100 \$150 Other \$ _____

Make checks payable to **UIF/Library Annual Fund (11332260)**.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Name of Library Is Looking For Gift (if applicable): _____

My gift is for the _____ Library.

I wish to pay by credit card:

VISA Discover/Novus MasterCard American Express

Card number _____ Exp. date _____

My company will match my gift:

Company name _____

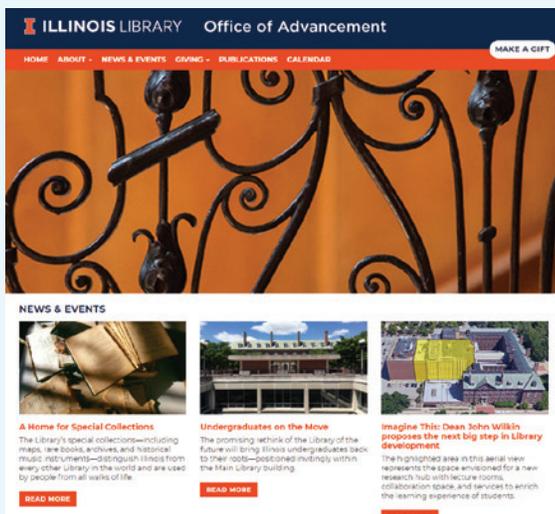
Yes, I would like to receive information about planned giving options such as bequests, charitable trusts, charitable gift annuities, and life estates.

5M5GT

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New Office of Advancement Website

The Library's Office of Advancement has launched a new website at library.illinois.edu/friends. The new site resolves some functionality limitations with the previous site. Those who visit can read the latest news and find events and exhibits relevant to Library Friends. Giving opportunities are located on the new site along with photos of and contact information for Advancement staff. Current issues of *Friendscript* (along with back issues) are accessible as well.

The Office of Advancement would appreciate hearing about user experiences in order to make further improvements. Library Friends should send feedback to Heather Murphy at (217) 333-3758 or hmurphy@illinois.edu.

THE LIBRARY IS SOCIAL

Stay connected for the latest news and events (and photos!) from the University Library.



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