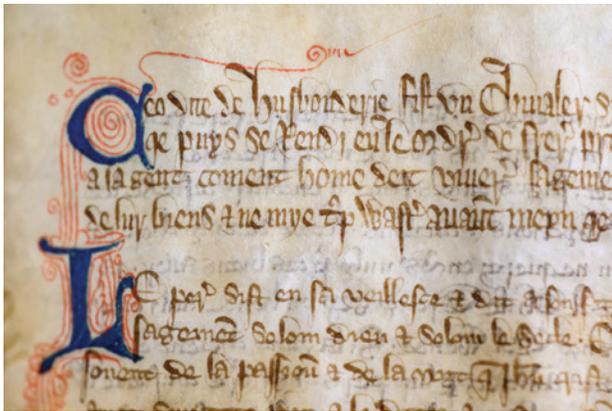


Friendscript

Library Purchases 15 Millionth Volume

Rare 14th century manuscript advises on managing a manor



The 15 millionth volume acquired by the University Library is a perfect marriage, uniting the campus’s agricultural beginnings with its mission as an ongoing repository of shared knowledge.

Ceo ditte de husbonderie fist un chivaler sir Walter de Henleye, a scarce early 14th century Anglo-Norman manuscript contains a nearly complete text of Walter of Henley’s 13th-century *Hosbondrye*, one of the most influential works

on agriculture and land management of the Middle Ages.

“This remarkable book is not only of great intrinsic value as a precious historical document, but it is both symbolically and in reality an important example that helps underscore our library mission: to unite knowledge across centuries and across cultures as we collaborate with the researchers who will feed the world and save the planet,” said Claire Stewart, Juanita J. and Robert E. Simpson Dean of Libraries and University Librarian.

While only 41 copies of the volume exist today, in the Middle Ages it was quite a popular piece, serving as an easy-to-read guide on managing an estate. The book advises on animal husbandry and livestock farming and is written in the form of a sermon from father to son. A man of varied interests, Henley—in addition to his knowledge of agriculture—was later known to be a knight and Dominican friar.

The book’s purchase was accomplished via the combined efforts of head librarians Lynne M. Thomas, MS ’99 LIS, Rare Book & Manuscript Library; Sarah Williams, Funk ACES Library; and Erin Kerby, Veterinary Medicine Library. All three units delved into their separate endowments established by Betty Jean Albert in honor of her husband, UI animal sciences professor Waco W. Albert. A bequest from her estate was also used.

The 15 millionth volume joins a group of rare, beautiful, and diverse items selected to mark the milestone of each millionth purchase made by the Library. *Ceo ditte de husbonderie fist un chivaler sir Walter de Henleye* enhances an esteemed collection that includes such treasures as Sir Walter Raleigh’s *The History of the World*; *Tales of Ise*, the first printed Japanese book to include illustrations; William C. Gannett’s *The House Beautiful*; H.G.

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Thank You

“This remarkable book is not only of great intrinsic value as a precious historical document, but it is both symbolically and in reality an important example that helps underscore our library mission....”

—CLAIRE STEWART,
DEAN OF LIBRARIES AND
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN



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.

◆ **Kathryn Heise**
Assistant Dean for Advancement
krh19@illinois.edu

◆ **Javonda Pelman**
Director of Advancement
jpelman@illinois.edu

◆ **Alyson Bell**
Associate Director of Advancement for Stewardship and Donor Relations
afbell2@illinois.edu

◆ **Vicki Sparks**
Administrative Aide
vsparks@illinois.edu

EDITOR: Heather Murphy, Chief Communications Officer

DESIGN: Studio 2D

WRITER: Beatrice Pavia/InkWell

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Library Purchases 15 Millionth Volume, continued from page 1

Wells' *The Adventures of Tommy*, a children's story; and the first Bible printed in the American colonies (written in the Natick language of the Wampanoag people).

An image and description of each of the million-mark volumes remain permanently on display on the walls of the first floor of the Main Library, as well as online at go.library.illinois.edu/millionthvolumes. For a digitized version of the Henley manuscript, visit go.illinois.edu/15Mdigital.



Left to right: Librarians Sarah Williams, Lynne M. Thomas, and Erin Kerby

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Claire Stewart

The Juanita J. and Robert E. Simpson Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

clairest@illinois.edu

Picture Perfect

Competition casts new eye on student effort

The development of a galaxy in space, cells that seem to smile, family relationships, and a microscopic image evoking a season's first snowfall—these are but a few of the hundreds of submissions presented over the years at the University of Illinois Image of Research competition.

The 11-year-old effort pushes students to view their research in a different light and share it with the world. Open to both graduate and undergraduate students, the annual event has drawn nearly 850 entries in its lifetime, showcasing the work of multiple disciplines, including life sciences, engineering, social sciences, the humanities, and fine and applied art.

“We were thinking about ways to outreach to the campus community,” said Merinda Kaye Hensley, an associate professor at the Library who has helmed the undergraduate portion of the competition since the beginning. The idea of finding a single image that reflects the meaning of their research seemed to offer a way for students to process their efforts and analyze them differently. Initially spurred by a similar project at the University of Illinois Chicago, the Urbana-Champaign version has since inspired more than 50 such efforts in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

The contest has strict rules regarding deadlines, format, and other requirements, with a few key elements: the image itself, a title, a short essay explaining the link between image and research, and judging by a multidisciplinary panel that considers the entry's originality, visual impact, and connection between image, text, and research. In addition, students must agree to allow their work to be submitted to IDEALS (the Illinois Digital Environment for Access to Learning and Scholarship), a University Library online resource providing access to research and scholarship produced at the Urbana campus.

But beyond these technicalities, the vision of the contest is wide open. Depictions of research can be concrete (displaying crystallizations within a kidney stone) or abstract (altering a scene to depict the effects of different wording when describing immigration). Each year, the images may tantalize, grip, or amuse as they portray concepts as diverse as chemical reactions, historical events, the intricacies of the natural and physical world, and the dreams of individuals and society.

The exposure the students get is one of the valuable outcomes of the project. Undergraduate entries are displayed and winners announced

“I’ve heard from dozens of students over the years who thank us for the opportunity to think about their research in a different way, to share it [more broadly] with additional communities, to get the word out about what they’re doing.”

—MERINDA KAYE HENSLEY



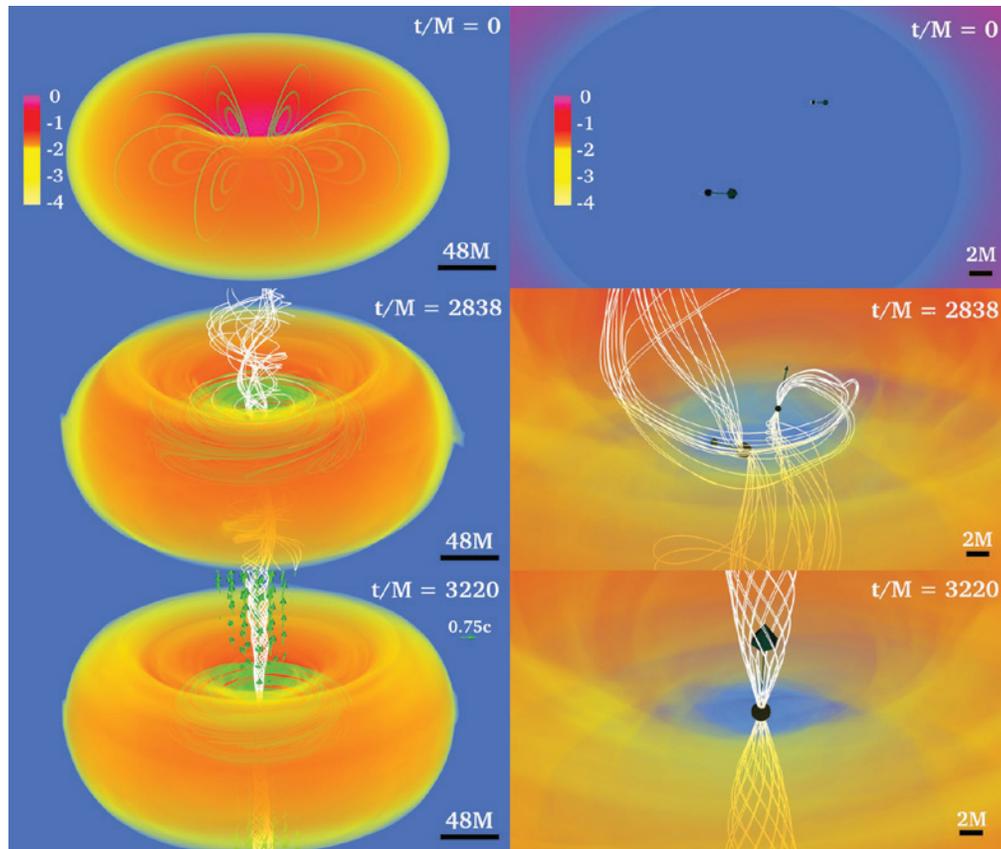
“Fassi Tanner” by John Rossi (1st Place in 2018 Undergraduate Edition)



“Fracas at the Nest” by Nick Antonson (1st Place in 2021 Graduate Edition)

continued on page 4

Picture Perfect, *continued from page 3*



“3D Visualization of Binary Black Hole Merger” by Mit Kotak (1st Place in 2022 Undergraduate Edition)

at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, held each spring. Monetary awards go to first and second place, as well as the people’s choice. For graduate entries, which are more numerous and are displayed in an on-site exhibition, monetary awards are available for first, second, and third place; honorable mentions; and people’s choice. An added plus is that the IDEALS website—where entries are placed—attracts the attention of researchers and the lay public worldwide.

“I’ve heard from dozens of students over the years who thank us for the opportunity to think about their research in a different way, to share it [more broadly] with additional communities, to get the word out about what they’re doing,” Hensley said. One student’s Image of Research entry even boosted his acceptance for graduate work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. “I wanted to send in a final update and thanks before I graduate,” Mit Kotak emailed Hensley last spring, in explaining that he was headed to MIT in the fall. “During my interview, the interviewers specifically brought up the Image of Research competition and how that helped me stand out from other applications.” (For the record, Kotak’s entry in the 2022 undergraduate program depicted a 3D visualization of a binary black hole merger, winning him first place and \$300.)



“Lost in Translation” by Jaylen De’Angelo Clay (1st Place in 2019 Graduate Competition)

The Graduate College and the Library’s Scholarly Commons organize the graduate side of the project, while the undergraduate portion falls within the Office of Undergraduate Research and the Library’s Teaching, Learning, and Academic Support unit. Over the years, the competition has explored a variety of sponsors and creative resources for funding, including the UI Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, grants, Library Friends, and individual donors. In 2022, the Scholarly Commons used a gift from Mardell J. O’Brien ‘72 LAS, MA ‘73 LAS, MS ‘97 LIS to underwrite both the undergraduate and graduate versions of the event. A more stable source of funding would help with prize money, displays, and celebratory gestures.

“I think that . . . we’re seeing generally in society that there is this pushback against academia, and that we all work in our own bubble,” Hensley said. She believes the competition offers students an avenue to explain the impact of their research on society and culture.

“It’s an important exercise for . . . students to think about their research in different ways to be able to talk about it with different kinds of people with different kinds of backgrounds. And [the Image of Research] really helps them do that,” Hensley said.

“It gets them out of their labs, out of their heads, out of their conversations with their professors to say, ‘What am I doing? And why is it important? How do I share it?’”

Student Success Librarian Serves ‘To Connect’

Initiative offers wide-ranging aid to boost progress

Maria Emerson, MS '14 LIS, arrived on campus in 2021 to tackle a new role the University Library had just created: Student Success Librarian.

The position was a response to a University of Illinois effort dubbed the Student Success Initiative, a campuswide program that digs ever deeper to help students earn a UI degree. Launched in 2019, the endeavor looks to examine and overcome barriers that hinder student progress, such as retention, graduation rates, degree-completion time, and other factors.

“More universities and colleges [are] seeing this as an important initiative,” said Emerson, a former research and instruction librarian at Augustana College. She said she was pleased to see that the Library “was taking this so seriously and seeing it as a really important . . . role . . . to take on to assist their students at the university.”

Because the Library serves as a focal point for much of the student experience, it made sense to use it as a nexus from which to reach out to other units on campus—not just departmental libraries, but entities such as cultural houses, counseling services, and communication assistance. “The university has a lot of resources,” Emerson said. “It’s just

finding ways to connect. It’s almost like a puzzle in some ways—like we have all these different pieces, how can we make it work together.”

Emerson believes the Library has always offered outstanding scholarly support, but if a student is dealing with issues such as finances, mental health, or child care, “they can’t do well academically.” She has helped establish a Family Study Room, a free Wesley Food Pantry in the Main Library, a speaking center (to assist with oral presentations), and various workshops and programs to spread the word about her role and avenues of available assistance. Future plans may involve a hangout for neurodiverse students and a social-justice zine collection.

“We view academic libraries through a very particular lens, which is academics,” Emerson said. Her role, she says, is to show “academic libraries can provide many things, and that even if [what we offer] is not strictly academic, [it] doesn’t mean that there’s not a place for it in the Library. “



Library Is Looking For

\$345 for Chicago (1981) from the “City Character Prints” created in the late 1970s and 1980s by Archar Inc. of Canada. The pictorial map hypes the advertising side of the Windy City, pointing out myriad businesses, landmarks, tourist spots, and historical points of interest. The **Map Library** hopes this item catches the eye of an interested buyer.



\$400 for Map of the Kibbutzim of Israel (1972), indicating in detail the location of these collective communities throughout Israeli territory at the time. Produced by Amir Publishing for the Federation of the Kibbutz Movements, the item measures an impressive 47 x 17 inches; its back side lists a plethora of information on the history and endeavors of the kibbutzim. The **Map Library** seeks this item, which is in good condition.

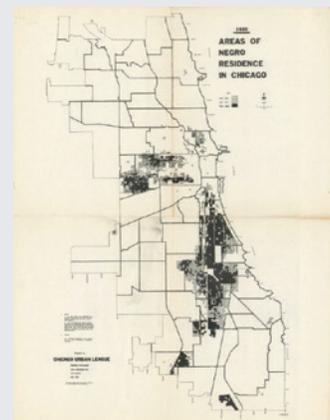
Find more Library Is Looking For items online at library.illinois.edu/friends/library-is-looking-for.



continued on page 6

Library Is Looking For, continued

To fund one of these items or to ask for additional titles in an area of interest, call (217) 333-5682 or email friends@library.illinois.edu.



\$675 for 1960 areas of Negro residence [Chicago, Illinois], a map accompanying a 1963 report from the Chicago Urban League depicting residential segregation in the city. Using data gleaned from the 1960 U.S. Census, a key reveals the percentage of African Americans living on each city block. The **Map Library** views this item as an important piece of mid-20th century American history.

\$1,250 for Grand Panoramic View of the Heart of Chicago (1892), a 360-degree look at the Windy City just a year before the 1893 Columbian Exposition. Two decades after the Great Chicago Fire, the metropolis looks to be thriving, as drawn by American artist and engraver George W. Melville. The **Map Library** would like to add this rare find, accompanied by Melville's book, *Gems of Wonderful Chicago and the World's Fair*, to its collections.



\$5,512 for the Medici Aesop for the **Classics Library Collection**. This is a 15th-century Florentine manuscript of Aesop's fables, traced to the library of Lorenzo de' Medici's son Piero and illustrated with exquisite miniature paintings—among the loveliest in any Renaissance work. Its magnificently illustrated pages feature a rainbow of brilliant colors and elaborate decorations that will dazzle today's reader as they once did the Medicis.



\$2,500 for a mobile bookcase for patrons of the Grainger Engineering Library Information Center. The item would showcase books that students may be unaware the unit holds—such as fiction, cooking, and foreign-language books—as well as encourage non-required reading and boost mental health.



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\$975 for Illinois advertising map, compliments of R.L. Loy, Effingham, Illinois (1890), a businessman who ran a hardware enterprise in the area. This rare wall map of the state is adorned with images of buggies made by the Parry Manufacturing Co. of Indianapolis. Feel like getting carried away? Purchase this 20.5 x 36.5 inch-piece for the **Map Library**.



Up to \$5,000 to purchase new Uyghur-language publications for the **International and Area Studies Library**. Since the establishment of "re-education camps" for this population in northwest China, publications produced by this ethnic minority in that region have fallen precipitously, but members of the Uyghur diaspora have remained active. The library would like to add to the more than 250 such books it has acquired in recent years via a vendor in Istanbul, Turkey.

\$2,500 to fund a Research Travel Grant. A gift of \$2,500 will directly impact graduate and post-doctoral scholars, enabling them to travel to Urbana-Champaign and access the rich collections held by the Library. The Research Travel Grant, a collaborative initiative by the **History, Philosophy, and Newspaper Library** and the Department of History, has thrived since 2019 through generous donor support. Grants create new opportunities for scholarly collaboration—applicants are asked to identify an Illinois faculty member as a sponsor and to present their research on campus—as well as increasing national and international awareness of the Library’s unique collections. Travel grant recipients will also have access to the Library’s digital collections (including journal subscriptions and licensed databases) during their stay. Four \$2,500 grants are needed.

\$10,709 for International Encyclopedia of Education, Fourth Edition, (2023 ebook edition), sought by the **Social Studies, Health, and Education Library**. Comprising 14 volumes filled with reviews, illustrations, and examples from across the globe, the set offers a thorough look at what lies on the forefront of research, theory, and practice in the field of education.

\$5,000 for personnel to improve access to Uyghur-language publications. These funds would allow the **International and Area Studies Library** to hire staff to help transliterate the Uyghur Arabic script, easing the way for researchers to locate Uyghur-language items in the Library’s collections.

Thank You

The following donors have adopted these items previously featured in *Friendscript*:

- ◆ **Nancy Balz** for three Sony ICD-UX570 digital voice recorders (Student Life and Culture Archives)
- ◆ **John and Diane Galvin** for *Hiker and Buzzer’s Trip ‘Round the World* (1929) (Map Library)
- ◆ **Daniel J. Jares** for *Palestine: Land of Dispute* (1947) (Map Library)
- ◆ **Larry and Laurie Krupp** for their gift toward repairing archival instruments (Sousa Archives and Center for American Music)
- ◆ **Lori Mestre** for her gift toward repairing the Family Study Room (Teaching, Learning, and Academic Support)



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.



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.

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Jessica and Dave chose the Main Library's historic Reading Room as one of their backdrops for their engagement photos. Jessica is a UIUC graduate (she holds master's and doctoral degrees from the School of Molecular & Cellular Biology). They both work at the university now. Jessica said they were hoping to have their photographs taken in the Library since academics and the university are so much a part of their lives.