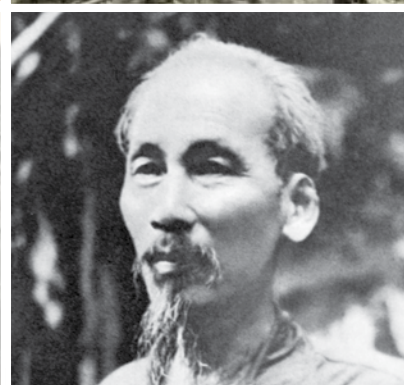
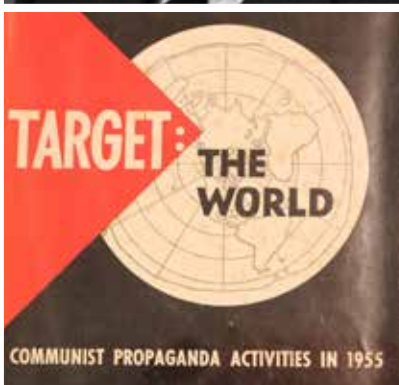
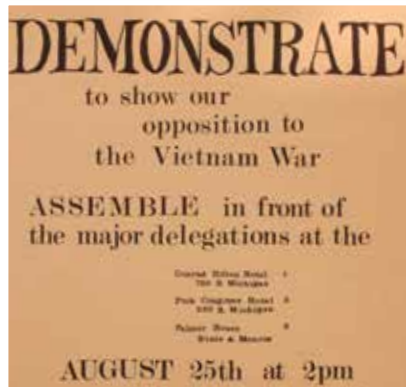
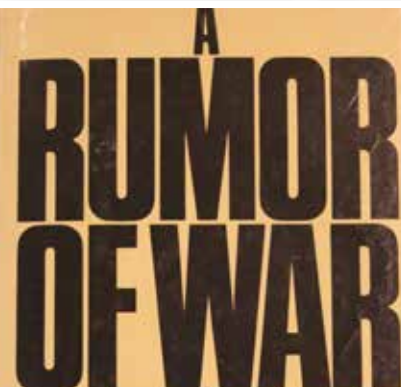
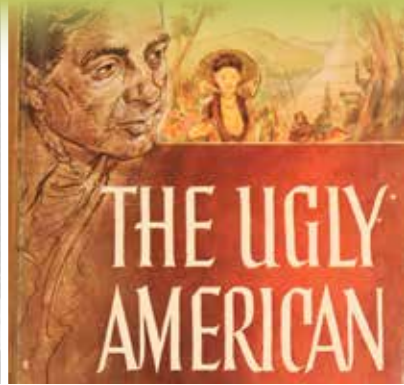
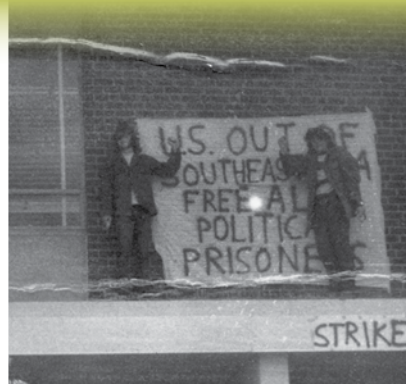
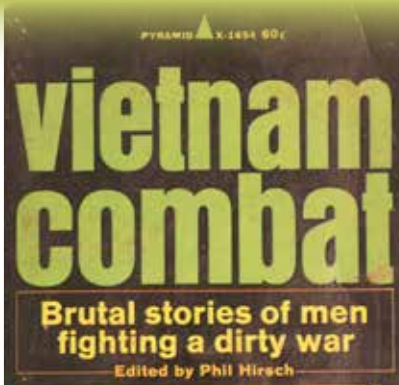


# THE LIBRARIES AT MASON

SPRING 2020

PEOPLE • RESOURCES • EVENTS



Partnership with OLLI  
Brings History to Life

New Artist-in-Residence Program

Libraries Faculty and Staff  
Win Awards and Fellowships





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John G. Zenelis,  
Dean of Libraries and  
University Librarian

# Letter from the Dean

## Dear Friends of the Mason Libraries,

When we planned, conceived, and designed this issue of *The Libraries at Mason* magazine, it was in a very different world. We did not know how our world would drastically change as 2020 unfolded and we found ourselves in a pandemic.

While this issue, as designed, is focused on our stories of 2019, I wanted to acknowledge that very different stories are unfolding in early 2020. These are uncertain and unprecedented times. This spring – usually a vibrant time at the Libraries – finds our campuses closed and our university community learning and working from home. Library faculty and staff have risen to the challenge, and I know we will have stories to share of their efforts in our next issue.

Despite uncertainty and change, we look forward with hope and remain true to our core mission – to support the students and faculty at Mason and, more broadly, to serve the Mason community by providing outstanding research and academic services, an integral part of Mason's teaching and learning environment – whether that environment happens in a physical community or a virtual one.

Looking back at our community endeavors and gatherings in 2019, I am pleased to provide some brief comments on the accomplishments highlighted in this edition of our magazine.

During the 2018-19 academic year, the Libraries conducted some 1,000 specialized instruction sessions and workshops for over 16,000 participants, provided over 1,600 in-depth research consultations, and served other multi-faceted academic needs of thousands of students on a daily basis. Data points such as these provide a snapshot of the Mason Libraries but not the whole picture – as you'll discover in the following pages.

Initiatives such as our first Artist-in-Residence program are vital to the Libraries' partnerships with the university's academic units and to Mason's goal of producing career-ready graduates. Programs like the residency provide invaluable opportunities for students to hear from professionals in their fields and to actively collaborate and learn with them.

The professional accomplishments and experiences of our own library faculty encourage such initiatives and also strengthen our organizational capabilities, as our librarians pursue research fellowships, focused professional development, or other such aligned endeavors.

Through active partnerships with organizations like the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, students and faculty, along with community members, have the opportunity to reflect together and engage with the past as they strive to make a brighter future.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support of the Libraries. I hope you and your dear ones are safe and healthy at this time.

Sincerely,

John G. Zenelis

Dean of Libraries and University Librarian



# From the Vice Chair of the Advisory Board

Enlightenment philosophers John Locke, David Hume, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau greatly influenced the writings of our Founding Father and University namesake, George Mason. Today, George Mason University Libraries carries on those thought traditions of valued learning, critical thinking, and intellectual exchanges through state of the art research aids, professional library staff resources, and forums for open dialogue.

Locke once said, “Reading furnishes the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours.” Mason Libraries is a hub for information, a rich resource for inquiry in every discipline, and a safe, reflective space to decipher, educate, and contemplate. Students, faculty, and

the wider community congregate there to excavate the stacks, digital resources, journals, and archival reserve to research, investigate, collaborate, and innovate. They use the vast collections to create ideas and expand our collective intelligence, adding, as Hume suggested, to the “stock of knowledge of humankind.” Rousseau mused, “All that we lack at birth, all that we need when we come to man’s estate, is the gift of education.”

Mason Libraries provides this gift through extensive permanent collections and offers special programming to enhance our awareness. From the writers at the Mason Creative Writing program sharing their poetry and prose, to the faculty lecture series in Fenwick Library, to the oral history projects



Jennifer L. Disano, Executive Director, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and Vice Chair, Libraries Advisory Board.

undertaken with members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, the University Libraries serves as a conduit for exploration, a repository of ideas, and a catalyst for the imagination.

Visit the Mason Libraries today and open your eyes to a world of learning!

## Jennifer L. Disano, Executive Director, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and Vice Chair, Libraries Advisory Board

Jennifer L. Disano serves as the Executive Director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University (OLLI Mason), a nonprofit membership-driven organization with three regional campuses in Northern Virginia offering 600 educational courses per year to over 1200 members, serving retired individuals aged 55 or better.

Under her direction, OLLI Mason has become more effective in fulfilling its mission. Her transformational initiatives have led to improved facilities and have expanded the reach of OLLI Mason services. As OLLI Mason is nationally aligned with 125 OLLIs at other universities, she works closely with OLLI groups across the country.

In September 2014, Disano was appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to serve on the Fairfax County Long Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC) which is committed to increasing awareness and access to services and programs that enhance the lives of older adults and people with disabilities. In June 2018, she was appointed by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam to serve on the Commonwealth Council on Aging.

At George Mason University, Disano serves on the Advisory Board of the University Libraries, the Advisory Board of the Office of Military Services, and as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Fall for the Book Festival. In addition, Disano is a member of the

American Association of University Women (AAUW) and regularly hosts the television show “On the go with AAUW” on Fairfax Public Access.

A lifelong volunteer, Disano is the recipient of several honor awards, receiving both the U.S. President’s Volunteer Service Award and Fairfax County Public Schools’ Highest Honor Award for Excellence in Volunteer Service.

Disano holds a Master’s Degree in Psychology of Organizational Leadership from Penn State University and a Bachelor’s Degree in Geography from California State University, East Bay.

# In Recognition of Carol Henderson



John Zenelis presents Carol Henderson with an appreciation certificate.

At the Libraries' board meeting in November 2019, Dean Zenelis recognized the service of Carol Henderson, a long-standing member of the Libraries Advisory Board and former reference librarian at the Mason Libraries.

Dean Zenelis presented Carol with an appreciation certificate that acknowledged her sustained and outstanding support of the University Libraries, her dedication and leadership in the field of librarianship, her generous spirit for community engagement and volunteer work, and her decade of service as a member of the Mason Libraries Advisory Board.

Additionally, in recognition of these outstanding contributions, a Fenwick Library study carrel has been named in honor of Carol and her husband Eric, who are longtime supporters of the Libraries. Carol and Eric have also participated in many events and programs at the Libraries, such as the Libraries' Oral History Program, which Eric contributed to with a reflection on his service during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The Libraries wish Carol and Eric the best!

## ABOUT CAROL C. HENDERSON

Carol C. Henderson served as Executive Director of the American Library Association Washington Office and as an Associate Executive Director of ALA from 1994-1999. Her 24 years of service for ALA included earlier Washington Office posts as deputy director, assistant director, and associate director. She was a reference librarian and assistant librarian for public services at George Mason University from 1969-75.

Achievements during her ALA tenure included expansion of the Washington Office, a doubling of staff and the establishment of an Office for Information Technology Policy, enactment of the Library Services and Technology Act in 1996, an increase in federal funding for library programs, enactment of telecommunications discounts for libraries and schools as part of universal service in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, revisions to cyberspace copyright legislation to help balance the interests of proprietors and users of copyrighted works, an increased presence on information technology policy issues and increased advocacy activities on behalf of libraries and their users.

During her career she spoke and wrote frequently on government policy and legislation affecting libraries. She served as chair of the National Science Foundation's Federal Network-

# Supporting the Libraries


Your gift to the University Libraries enables us to successfully pursue our mission to serve the Mason community and to provide outstanding research and academic services, an integral part of Mason's teaching and learning environment. Your support—whether through monetary gifts, bequests and other testamentary plans, books, manuscripts or other materials—allows the Libraries to improve and enrich resources and address pressing needs.

You may make a gift online to support a specific school's library fund, the Libraries' Endowment for Excellence, the Library Fund, or another area of your choosing. Mason faculty and staff may elect to give via payroll deduction. For more information about specific allocations or other ways to give to the Libraries, including naming opportunities, please contact Kathleen Kehoe, Director of Development, at 703-993-8740 or [library@gmu.edu](mailto:library@gmu.edu).

For more information, visit  
<https://library.gmu.edu/support/>

ing Council Advisory Committee, charged with providing technical and strategic advice for the development of advanced networking for research and education. She served on the board of the Virginia Center for the Book.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, she holds a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University and a master's degree in library science from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. She was awarded a fellowship under the Higher Education Act Title II-B for graduate work in library science. The Catholic University of America honored her in 1998 with an alumni award for outstanding achievement.

In retirement she did volunteer work for the Reston Regional branch of the Fairfax County Public Library, and was active in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University. She served on the OLLI Board from 2002-2008, served as an officer, chaired several committees, organized Board retreats and implemented orientation sessions for new Board members. She taught several OLLI literature courses and moderated a short story discussion class for fifteen years. She also led the team that produced *The Story of OLLI* in 2016, a history of the organization's first 25 years. At her current residence at the Vinson Hall Retirement Community, she chairs a Low Vision Support Group. 



Carol Henderson at the study carrel named in her and Eric's honor.



# Partnership with OLLI Brings History to Life

Through a key partnership with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), Mason Libraries' Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) has been exploring key historical milestones, bringing life to items in our collections, engaging our community, and expanding SCRC's Oral History Program.

Thanks to special project grants from OLLI over the past few years, the Libraries has hosted events on the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Vietnam War. Each event featured a panel of OLLI members who had directly experienced these historical milestones, with discussion moderated by a Mason history professor. The events also featured receptions and tours of exhibits curated by SCRC that highlighted the relevant time periods.

Each panel discussion was recorded for SCRC's Oral History Program (OHP). The Oral History Program is an active, integral part of SCRC's work and is spearheaded by Bob Vay, Digital Collections and Exhibition Archivist. OHP records and preserves oral histories about moments of historical importance, communities in the Northern Virginia region, and the history of George Mason University. Established in 1999, the OHP has conducted over 200 interviews, continuing to add to a trove of recordings that document people's memories and life experiences. Interested parties may visit SCRC to listen to or view interviews in the collection, and some sample selections may be



Left to right: Candy Otstott, Charley Otstott, Bob Shaffer, John Ware, Meredith Lair.

found on the Special Collections Research Center's Oral History Portal at <http://oralhistory.gmu.edu>.

On Tuesday, November 19, 2019, the Libraries hosted "Memories and Moments from the Vietnam War" in conjunction with the exhibit *A War of Contradictions: The Vietnam Conflict 1945-1975*. The exhibit was carefully balanced to portray the varying opinions about the conflict and featured books, photographs, posters, and pamphlets from our special and rare collections. Space was also dedicated to highlight some of the happenings at the university during that time, such as the petition presented to Chancellor Thompson in 1969 signed by over 600 Mason students, faculty, and staff who wished to be excused from classes and work duties so they could take part in the Vietnam War Moratorium event on October 15, 1969. Their petition was denied.

The value of adding voices to our collections is inestimable. Bob Vay reflects, "From an educational perspective, oral

histories add richness and personal perspective to the historical record and can engage students and scholars in a lively study of history. While it is important for scholars to read history and use primary source documents, there is something irreplaceable about the firsthand recollections of individuals who witnessed or were part of an era or event. Oral history adds very personal details and helps put us there with the interview subject."

"Memories and Moments" was moderated by Meredith Lair, associate professor in Mason's History and Art History department and director of the Interdisciplinary Studies master's program, who teaches courses about war and American society, and the Vietnam War in particular. The panel guests were OLLI members Candice Curley Otstott (Army Nurse Corps), Charley Otstott (Army Infantry), Bob Shaffer (Army Special Forces), and John Ware (Air Force). The event was attended by OLLI members, Mason students, faculty, staff, and local community members.



## A War of Contradictions: The Vietnam Conflict, 1945-1975

**"It became necessary to destroy  
the town in order to save it."**

This quote, attributed to a U.S. Army officer in February 1968, illustrates the contradictions inherent in the Vietnam Conflict. Seen by some as a noble fight to stop Communism and help a developing country establish democracy, and others as interference in a war of national liberation and a destructive waste of money and human life, Vietnam remains one of the more polarizing topics of the twentieth century. This was evident in the words, actions, and writings of politicians, journalists, authors, clergy, and others. The conflict, which spanned 30 years, from September 1945 to May 1975, was responsible for 1.5 million to 3.5 million civilian and military deaths. One of the major flash points of the Cold War, Vietnam was, and still is, a subject about which many have differing opinions. The exhibition, on display from August 2019 through January 2020, featured items from Special Collections Research Center's Rare Books, University Archives, and manuscript collections.

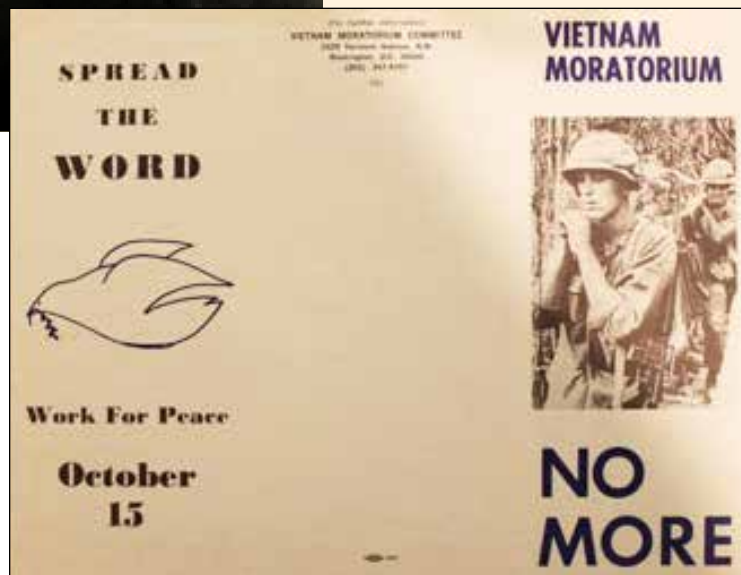


Image from the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam Team 58 photograph collection, #C0196.

Lynn Eaton, Special Collections Research Center director, remarks, "Our partnership with OLLI produces wonderful events, with fascinating discussions. Everyone who attended 'Memories and Moments' learned more about the conflict in Vietnam from the panelists' personal stories and experiences. We greatly appreciate OLLI's support of this program, and being able to host such panels on a regular basis allows for a broader discussion of key points in history and the lives lived during those times."


The Libraries is honored to be the repository of OLLI members' memories of these pivotal moments in U.S. history.

For the Cuban Missile Crisis, Ray Beery, Garrett Cochran, and Bob Persell par-



Vietnam Moratorium Committee pamphlet, Edwin W. Lynch Vietnam War protest collection, #C0080.

ticipated, moderated by Martin J. Sherwin, a fellow veteran and University Professor at Mason. Eric Henderson, who was unable to join us the day of the panel recorded a separate remembrance for our collection. For the Civil Rights Movement, Zachary Schrag, Professor of History, interviewed Bob Coffin, Bob Frye, Marguerite Johnson,

and Jeremy Remson. In addition to the exhibit SCRC curated, the Civil Rights Movement event was complemented by Senator Lewis' reflections on writing *March* at the 2018 Fall for the Book festival, as well as recollections of Mason alumni at the 50th alumni anniversary celebration brunch which the Libraries hosted for the class of 1968. 



# Mason Libraries Artist-In-Residence Program



Adriana Monsalve, assembling HITO. Above: Christopher Kardambikis, Assistant Professor, School of Art, and Adriana Monsalve, assembling HITO.

Fenwick Gallery, with its tagline “A Space for Inquiry,” has been just that over the years. With increased programming since the Fenwick Library building expansion in 2016, the gallery, prominently placed on the first floor of Fenwick Library, captures the eye when walking through the Fenwick Library atrium.

Stephanie Grimm, Art and Art History Librarian, who manages the Fenwick Gallery—and to whom credit is due for making it the active, collaborative space it is today—had the idea to take the gallery’s programming to the next level with an Artist-in-Residence program.

When asked about the idea, Stephanie remarked, “Artist-in-residences exist, but they are rare to find in libraries. A library is not the traditional place you find a residency, but we can provide something here that cannot be provided elsewhere. A residency in Mason Libraries provides the artist with space and support—the time to take for a project and a space to do research. Since it is not a traditional residency, there is a lot of flexibility for the artist to really tailor the residency to their pursuits and interests.” The university setting also affords the opportunity for artists to work with students,





teach classes, and lead workshops.

For the first residency, the Libraries invited Adriana Monsalve, photobook artist and publisher. Throughout April and May 2019, Monsalve divided her time between the Mason Libraries and the Mason School of Art to lead a series of in-class lectures and workshops, and to conduct research in the Libraries. Her research made use of both the Libraries' general and special collections, such as the photobook and artists' book collections, and she has returned a number of times after her residency concluded to find additional resources.

One of the workshops Monsalve led during her residency was her HITO (Home In The Other) workshop, which she facilitated previously at Stevenson University, LATITUDE Chicago, and the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA). The workshop explores the power of narrative and encourages participants to share their own stories. Working with a partner—friend, acquaintance, or stranger—each par-

ticipant develops an image and text in response to the idea of finding “home in the other.”

The final outcome of the HITO workshop series was a publication of the same name. HITO is a collaborative project through zine making in the mediums of photography, writing, riso, and screenprinting. HITO was printed by Christopher Kardambikis (Assistant Professor and Director, Printmaking, School of Art) with assistance from Emily Fussner (MFA '19), Jen Lillis (MFA '19), Stephanie Grimm, and Adriana Monsalve at Mason's School of Art in May 2019, and is available through Homie House Press.

HITO made its debut at Offprint, a three-day photobook fair held in London, England at the Tate Modern. Participation in the fair is by invitation only. The May 2019 event hosted 130 independent publishers (from seventeen countries) in the fields of contemporary art, photography, and graphic design. Monsalve showcased HITO,

along with some of her other works, and even gifted a copy to a cast member from *Game of Thrones* who gave a talk at the fair.

The residency concluded with an exhibition, *Diaspora Diction*, curated by Monsalve, with support from Grimm and Fussner (Fenwick Gallery's 2018-19 graduate research assistant), as well as a special artist's talk. However, the outcomes of the residency are ongoing. The Mason team who helped assemble HITO joined Monsalve and Christopher Metzger (Assistant Professor, Art and Visual Communication Design, Stevenson University) to speak on a panel at the American Library Association's annual conference in June 2019. Monsalve selected a Mason student from one of the classes she taught to be published by Homie House Press (forthcoming). And, in addition to continuing her research which she started at Mason, Monsalve will return in 2020 to present a lecture on her research outcomes. Plans for a future Artist-in-Residence are in the works for 2021.

## About *Diaspora Diction* and Adriana Monsalve's Research

*Diaspora Diction* collects Monsalve's photographs, photobooks, and ongoing research into identity—and illusions of identity—in the African and Latinx diaspora. The exhibition featured images from Monsalve's first photobook, *Clear as Black*, a deeply personal and investigative documentary of the community and stories of individuals with a rare type of albinism found in Puerto Rico. Home to a vast hybridity of people, Puerto Rico is also the capital of the world for albinism. "There are layers upon layers that make up how albinism manifests physically, inside and out," said Monsalve. "Albinism is not just white on this island; it's black, too. There are people who have the condition of albinism, but do not display the physical characteristics commonly known of a person with albinism. They are black, white and everything in between, and they are all people with albinism."

*Diaspora Diction* also includes a second, separate body of work in progress, tentatively titled *Novena*. Photo-

graphed during a subsequent visit to Puerto Rico, *Novena* follows the family of Ricardito, one of the subjects of *Clear as Black*, in the days immediately following the death of his grandfather, the family patriarch.

During the residency at Mason, Monsalve continued her research into these questions of identity, expanding her scope to the Melungeon communities in Appalachia. "This is investigative research in the greater world of the African diaspora. There are communities world-wide, past and present whose blackness was hidden to assimilate, prosper, and ultimately to survive. There are more that simply have no idea they are connected to something other than what mainstream world refers to as 'white-passing.' Folks that happen to be white aren't taught to question that whiteness when speaking about identity, so the fact that these things fall under the scope of investigation is a wild assumption. They are never questioned, and don't inquire about the self. The continuing research of *Clear As Black*, moving forward, is about this buried blackness in the North American region of Appalachia."



## About Adriana Monsalve

Adriana Monsalve is an artist and collaborative publisher working in the photo book medium. Together with Caterina Ragg, they run Homie House Press from Beltsville, Maryland and Lambrate, Milano, Italy. HHP is a radical cooperative platform where they challenge the ever-changing forms of storytelling with image + text.

In her own words, "I am a storyteller and visual communicator that produces in-depth stories on identity through the nuances in between. As a daughter of immigrants from the Caribbean Republic of Colombia, I have struggled with the concept of 'home.' As immigrants, we are everywhere and we have to belong somewhere, so we've made habitats for ourselves in pocket towns of people like us. I'm documenting to show you something I've found and ultimately, something I am. I'm documenting so you know I was here. I am an artist, book maker, and educator... but I am still reclaiming space. I am growing into the many things that were made for me at the intersection of personal, political, and poetic."

Monsalve earned a Masters in Photojournalism from the University of Westminster, London in 2013. In 2018, she was awarded the Lucie Independent Photo Book Prize for her collaborative photo book, *Femme Frontera*, a project which was funded by the National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures

Stephanie Grimm, Art and Art History Librarian, assembling HITO.







Adriana Monsalve, leading Mason students and community members in HITO workshop.




From left to right - Christopher Metzger, Assistant Professor, Art and Visual Communication Design, Stevenson University; Emily Fussner, MFA Visual Arts '19, George Mason University; Stephanie Grimm, Art and Art History Librarian, Mason Libraries; Christopher Kardambikis, Assistant Professor and Director of Printmaking, Mason School of Art; Adriana Monsalve, Homie House Press; and Jennifer Lillis, MFA Visual Arts '19, George Mason University, in The Zine Pavilion at the American Library Association's 2019 Annual Conference.

and was part of the Master Artist Grant for 2017.

The works of Homie House Press have been collected in the Library of Congress, the Thomas J. Watson Library at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Museum of Women in the Arts, and the Maryland Institute

College of Art, among other private collections. At Mason, you can find Monsalve's photo books and HHP publications in the Mason Libraries Artists' Book Collection, housed in the Special Collections Research Center.

See more on Monsalve's work and HHP at <http://www.adrianastories.com>. 

## About Fenwick Gallery

George Mason University Libraries provides a hybrid, walk-through exhibition space in Fenwick Library to enhance and enrich teaching, learning, and culture at the University. This space highlights Mason Libraries' research resources together with original visual and multimedia work.

Exhibit themes emphasize facets of the Libraries' collections, research interests of Mason faculty, students, and staff, Mason's curriculum, as well as local cultural initiatives. Fenwick Gallery is dedicated to exhibiting high quality works by students, faculty, staff, and other emerging and experienced artists that highlight aspects of the Libraries' collections.

The Art and Art History Librarian manages, develops, and maintains Fenwick Gallery. Through a unique partnership with Mason's College of Visual and Performing Arts, a Master's in Fine Arts or Arts Management student gains professional gallery experience in exhibit curation, research, website maintenance, and advertising through a Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA).

## 2019 Exhibits

*It's Personal – Zines, Artist Books, etc.,*  
February 8 – March 15, 2019

*What Sparks Poetry: An Exhibition in Celebration of Poetry Daily,*  
March 20 – April 18, 2019

*J Carrier: Elementary Calculus,*  
April 24 – May 24, 2019

*Adriana Monsalve: Diaspora Diction,*  
May 28 – July 26, 2019

*Extended Image: The Allure of the Locale,*  
August 1 – September 27, 2019

*Call & Response 2019: Transmogrify,*  
October 3 – November 9, 2019

*D(C)MV Comics,*  
November 15, 2019 – February 14, 2020

# Heather Darnell Selected for Competitive Librarian Fellowship

Heather Darnell, Librarian for Dance, Film Studies, and Multimedia Literacy, was selected for the 2019 Institute for Research Design in Librarianship (IRDL), a competitive fellowship program held annually at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California.

As described on the IRDL website, the Institute is designed to bring together a diverse group of academic and research librarians who are motivated and enthusiastic about conducting research but need additional training or other support to perform the steps successfully. During the week-long workshop, participants receive expert instruction in social science research methods and design, including small-group and one-on-one assistance with their research proposals. Throughout the following academic year, Institute participants receive one-on-one mentoring and ongoing support in conducting their research and preparing their results for dissemination.

Application for the Institute is competitive, and includes submitting a draft research proposal that is evaluated for its thoughtfulness, thoroughness, and clarity, as well as the significance of the research problem to the profession of librarianship.

Inspired by her experiences while working at the Mason Libraries with the unique needs of film students, Darnell's



Heather Darnell, with IRDL Directors Marie Kennedy (left) and Kristine Brancolini (right).

**“This research will benefit librarians and information professionals who wish to better facilitate filmmakers and performing artists.”**

*Heather Darnell, Librarian for Dance, Film Studies, and Multimedia Literacy*


proposal—and subsequent research project—“The Information-Seeking Behavior of Film Directors” explores why, how, and for what purposes film directors seek information and what role that information plays in their creative processes.

Through the Institute workshop, Darnell further refined her proposal and research group to focus on independent filmmakers in Washington, D.C. She sent out calls for interviewees via social media groups and local organizations, such as Women in Film & Video (an organization dedicated to advancing the career development and achievement for professionals working in all areas of screen-based media and related dis-

ciplines) and Docs In Progress (whose mission is to give individuals the tools to tell stories through documentary film to educate, inspire, and transform the way people view their world). In response to her call, Darnell received 35 responses and interviewed 17 directors from the genres of narrative (fiction) and documentary film. Criteria for being interviewed required that directors had screened a work in a film festival and had completed work recently.

When asked about her research, Darnell said, “This research will benefit librarians and information professionals who wish to better facilitate filmmakers and performing artists.”

Darnell, who hopes her research will contribute to scholarly conversations on information, cognition, and creativity, credits the Institute with spurring her to take this opportunity to advance this unexamined field of study and really ask how film directors prepare their minds for the creative processes to occur. As Darnell remarks, “Ideas don't just come from nowhere. Artists combine and manipulate a variety of inputs in order to create art.”

Darnell said the Institute was an excellent program. The small size of the cohort, the research time, the feedback from staff, and the ongoing conversations with a mentor all contributed to making her project a success as well as to her own professional development. Upon completing her research and analysis of the directors' responses, Darnell's goals include publishing an article and presenting at conferences to address 1) how libraries can better support and facilitate filmmakers and 2) how information is manipulated to make art. 



# Science and Citizenship in the Early Republic



Seal of the United States Military Philosophical Society, found while researching at the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies.



United States Military Philosophical Society Membership Certificate, courtesy of American Philosophical Society Library.

George Oberle, History Librarian, was the recipient of a one-month research fellowship with the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies, in Charlottesville, Virginia.


For his 2019 fellowship, Oberle took time to examine new sources for his work on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American history, particularly the Early Republic. His research project, "Education for an 'Empire of Liberty': Science and Citizenship in the Early Republic," stems from work he started during his PhD dissertation.

The Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies (ICJS) is a multidisciplinary research center that oversees the work of several departments at Monticello and supports the ongoing international study of Thomas Jefferson and his world. Fellows are expected to be in residence at ICJS, where they have access to Monticello's expert

staff and research holdings at the Jefferson Library as well as those at the nearby University of Virginia. During their residencies, fellows hold a 45 minute forum on their research projects.

Oberle's presentation on education was well received, and he received favorable feedback from other scholars, including scholars who had been important to his work as a doctoral student. Of the time he remarks, "It was an incredibly valuable time—from dedicated time to work on my book to the opportunity to be around other Jefferson scholars to our weekly gatherings for lunch and presentations...The librarians at ICJS were incredibly helpful to my research endeavors."

The ICJS fellowship program welcomes domestic and international scholars, and promotes research into Jefferson's life, times, and the Monticello community. In 2019, the Center welcomed 25 scholars.

Accommodations were available in Kenwood House, which was built in 1939 for General Watson, a senior military aide and later secretary to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who purchased land once owned by Jefferson. Mrs. Watson left the property to UVA who leases it to the Thomas Jefferson Foundation for their continued work. 

# Annual Fenwick Fellow Lectures

## Showcase Digital Scholarship

Each year the University Libraries awards the Fenwick Fellowship to one or two Mason faculty members to pursue a research project that uses and enhances the Libraries' resources while advancing knowledge in their fields.

In 2017-18, the Libraries awarded two fellowships to faculty members pursuing projects with substantial digital scholarship components. For both projects, the Libraries' Digital Scholarship Center (DiSC) provided consultation and support. Following the fellowship year, faculty are invited back to present the outcomes of their research. On Wednesday, April 17, 2019, the Libraries hosted this annual lecture, featuring 2017-18 fellows: Jennifer Ashley, Assistant Professor of Global Affairs, College of Humanities and Social Sciences; and Alok Yadav, Associate Professor of English, College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Professors Ashley and Yadav discussed their research, provided updates on their projects, and displayed the digital sites they were working on to showcase their scholarship.

Professor Ashley's project, *The Chilean Plebiscite and the Power to be Affected*, explores the Chilean plebiscite of 1988 and features documents, videos, and interviews with a variety of participants of both the "YES" and "NO" vote campaigns. Drawing on 50 interviews with Chileans of different ages and political perspectives, Ashley explores what makes a campaign successful and how media representations influence political campaign outcomes. Her project focuses on the plebiscite campaign as a means of reflecting on the importance of affect and the power to be affected in shaping political life.

With his project, *Anthologies of African American Writing: Literary History and Digital Scholarship: A Modest Proposal*, Professor Yadav seeks to preserve a branch of literature—the anthology—that has not been historically preserved and provide an accessible platform that facilitates scholarly inquiries. The goal of his digital project is to develop one essential resource – a comprehensive bibliography, index, and reception history of anthologies of African American writing in order to provide the basis for a range of literary historical investigations of African American culture. [M](#)



Jennifer Ashley, Assistant Professor of Global Affairs, College of Humanities and Social Sciences.



Alok Yadav, Associate Professor of English, College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

### About the 2017-18 Fellows

**Jennifer Ashley** is a Term Assistant Professor of Global Affairs at George Mason University. She has a PhD in Anthropology from Brown University. Her work focuses on media and political subjectivity, and has been published in journals such as *American Ethnologist*, *Popular Communication*, and *Television & New Media*.

**Alok Yadav** is an Associate Professor in the English department at George Mason University, where he teaches courses on eighteenth-century British literature and on various topics in literary research, literary analysis, and literary theory. He has a PhD in English from Cornell University. His first book was titled *Before the Empire of English: Literature, Provinciality, and Nationalism in Eighteenth-Century Britain* (2004). He has been work-

ing, slowly, on a project on political criticism of literature focused on Rudyard Kipling's *Kim* – a project that involves a bit of a stretch for a dix-huitième, since *Kim* was published in 1901. His current project, *Anthologies of African American Writing*, involves a further stretch, in at least a couple of directions.

### About the Fenwick Fellow Program

The Fenwick Fellowship is awarded annually to Mason faculty to pursue a research project that use and enhance the University Libraries' resources while advancing knowledge in the faculty members' field. The annual Fenwick Fellow Lecture takes place each spring and is open for all to attend. For more information, visit <https://library.gmu.edu/about/fellow>.



# Mason Author Series Welcomes Back Popular Author Helon Habila


The Libraries' popular Mason Author Series kicked off its 2019—20 series with Helon Habila, acclaimed author and professor of creative writing at Mason, with a reading and discussion of his latest novel, *Travelers*.

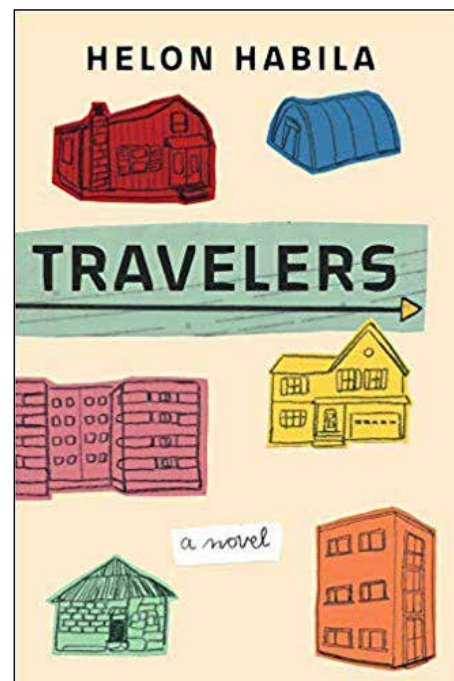
*Travelers* is Habila's first book not set in Africa, yet Africa remains at its heart. A work of fiction, *Travelers* is inspired and informed by Habila's experience while living in Germany in 2013. When a boat carrying migrants from Libya capsized in the Mediterranean during that time, he was asked to write about the African perspective of this tragedy. He interviewed many immigrants and refugees, some of which are fictionalized in *Travelers*.

During his talk to Mason students, faculty, and community members, he reflected on his experience interviewing refugees, how they are people who want to be heard and seen, who are hoping that by escaping troubles they can start again somewhere new. As he said, "Talking to them makes you see them." He also discussed the power of story, themes of exile and escape, the complications of life, and the craft of

writing. Talking about the trajectory of *Travelers*, he remarked, "As I tell my fiction students, complicate the conflict as you go along."

*Travelers* has been hailed as a "sweeping novel that gives voice to members of the African diaspora dispersed across contemporary Europe" (*Kirkus Reviews*) and as a novel that "has it all – intelligence, tragedy, poetry, love, intimacy, compassion and a serious, soulful, arms-wide engagement with one of the most acute human concerns of our age: the refugee crisis" (*The Guardian*).

This is not the first time that the Libraries has welcomed Helon Habila for a reading. In 2017, the Libraries hosted Habila for a discussion of *The Chibok Girls*, his compassionate and powerful account of the kidnapping of 276 girls from the Chibok Secondary School by Boko Haram. 



## About Helon Habila

Helon Habila is the author of the novels, *Waiting for an Angel*, *Measuring Time*, *Oil on Water*, and *Travelers*, and a nonfiction book, *The Chibok Girls*.

His writing has won numerous awards including the Caine Prize, the Commonwealth Short Story Prize, the Emily Balch Prize, and the



Windham-Campbell Prize. He is a contributing editor to the *Virginia Quarterly Review*. His stories, articles, reviews, and poems have appeared in various magazines and papers including *Granta*, *AGNI*, the *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Guernica*, and *The London Guardian*. His short story, "The Hotel Malogo," was selected for *The Best American Nonrequired Reading Anthology*. Habila is the editor of *The Granta Book of African Short Story*, 2011.

## About the Mason Author Series

The Mason Author Series, generously sponsored by the University Bookstore, was launched in March 2016 in conjunction with the grand opening of the new Fenwick Library. The goal of the Mason Author Series is to bring together the Mason community for readings, discussion, and dialogue, focused on a recently published book by a Mason faculty member or alumni author.

### In 2019, the Libraries hosted the following authors:

- *Ideals of the Body: Architecture, Urbanism, and Hygiene in Postrevolutionary Paris* with Sun-Young Park, Assistant Professor, History and Art History, Thursday, March 7, 2019
- *Travelers* with Helon Habila, Professor, Creative Writing, Thursday, October 10, 2019
- *Dark Commerce: How a New Illicit Economy is Threatening our Future* with Louise Shelley, Omer L. and Nancy Hirst Endowed Chair and University Professor, Schar School of Policy and Government, Wednesday, November 6, 2019

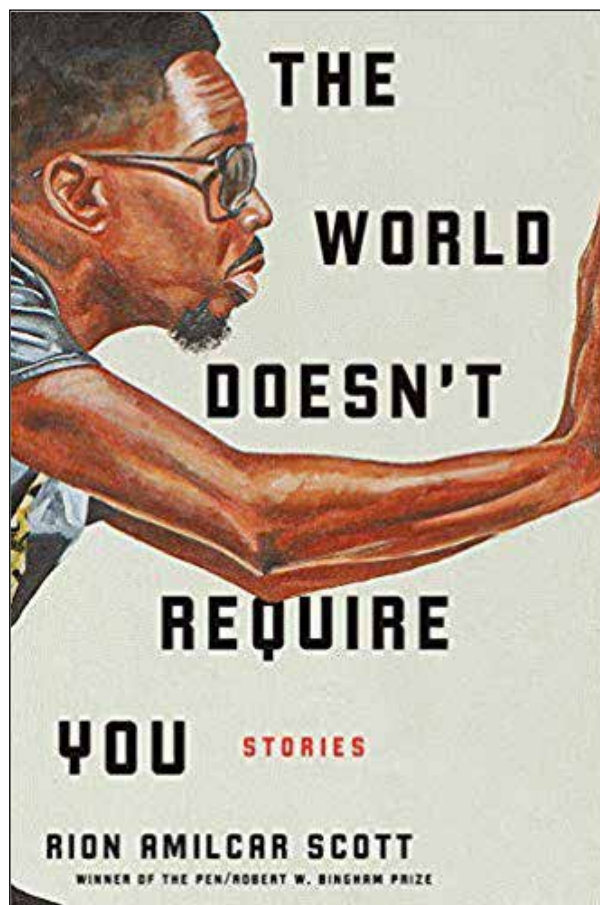
# New Partnership with Creative Writing Program


Due to a partnership developed in 2019 between Mason's Creative Writing Program and Mason Libraries, the Creative Writing Program's popular Visiting Writer Series is now hosted in Fenwick Library.

Each semester, the Creative Writing program welcomes six visiting writers—two each in fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Writers meet with registered MFA students for workshops during their visit and then give a public reading in Fenwick Library. All readings are free and open to the public.

The Fall 2019 Visiting Writer Series kicked off with a special sort of homecoming, welcoming Rion Amilcar Scott, an alumnus of Mason's MFA program. While an MFA student, he also served as a Graduate Research Assistant at Mason Libraries. Scott read from his short story collections, *Insurrections* and *The World Doesn't Require You*, for which he has been called “an impressive myth-slayer and fable-maker” (*NY Times* Review, August 2019). *The World Doesn't Require You* has been described as not “just one of the most inventive books of the year [but] also one of the best” (*NPR* Review, August 2019).

For more about Rion Amilcar Scott, including books that influenced him and



various interviews and articles, and about the Visiting Writer Series authors, visit <https://info-guides.gmu.edu/visitingwriters/>. 

## 2019 Visiting Writers

- Lyz Lenz (nonfiction), author of *Godland: A Story of Faith, Loss, and Renewal in Middle America*, Thursday, February 21
- Rebecca Makkai (fiction), author of *The Great Believers*, Thursday, February 28
- Ilya Kaminsky (poetry), author of *Dancing In Odessa*, Thursday, March 21
- Ed Roberson (poetry), author of *To See the Earth Before the End of the World*, Monday, April 8
- Jane Brox (nonfiction), author of *Silence*, Wednesday, April 10
- Jamel Brinkley (fiction), author of *A Lucky Man: Stories*, April 12

◀ Rion Amilcar Scott, MFA '08 (fiction), Mason alumnus and author of *The World Doesn't Require You*, September 19

- Bella Pollen (nonfiction), author of *Meet Me in the In-Between*, October 10
- Cole Swensen (poetry), author of *On Walking On*, October 10
- R.O. Kwon (fiction), author of *The Incendiaries*, October 11
- Rosa Alcalá (poetry), author of *MyOTHER TONGUE*, November 7
- Andre Perry (nonfiction), author of *Some of Us Are Very Hungry Now*, November 21




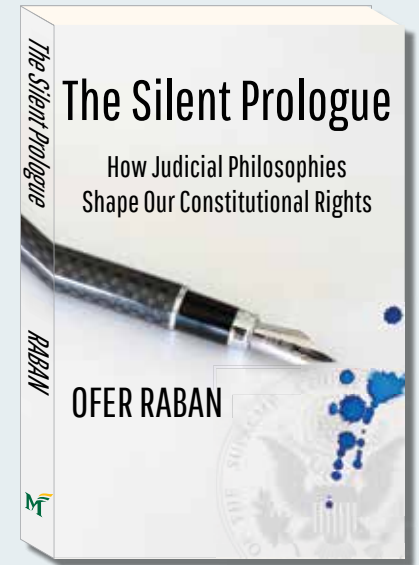
# George Mason University Press Releases New Titles

*The Silent Prologue: How Judicial Philosophies Shape Our Constitutional Rights* (Spring 2020), by author Ofer Raban, stands at the intersection of three academic disciplines: legal philosophy, constitutional law, and political theory. The book provides a practical and engaging introduction to judicial philosophy, by examining specific constitutional cases under the First, Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Ninth, and Fourteenth Amendments.

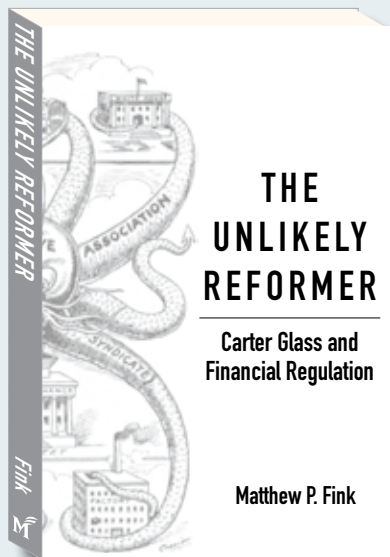
*The Silent Prologue* is designed to function as a supplemental textbook for courses in constitutional law, legal philosophy, and political theory. It is highly accessible, is written in a nontechnical manner, and offers an authoritative and sophisticated exegesis of its subject matters. The book includes a set of review questions that allows readers and

instructors to evaluate the information imparted in each of its eleven chapters.

Professor Ofer Raban is a renowned expert in constitutional law and legal philosophy. His writings on legal philosophy and constitutional law appeared in many law review journals and in the popular press, and have been translated into five languages. Professor Raban holds a JD from Harvard Law School and a doctorate in legal philosophy from Oxford University (where he was the recipient of a British Government Research Award). 



***THE SILENT PROLOGUE: How Judicial Philosophies Shape Our Constitutional Rights***  
By Ofer Raban  
235 pp. George Mason University Press. \$25.



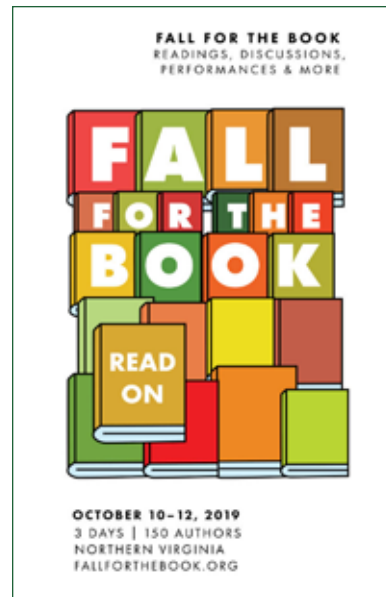
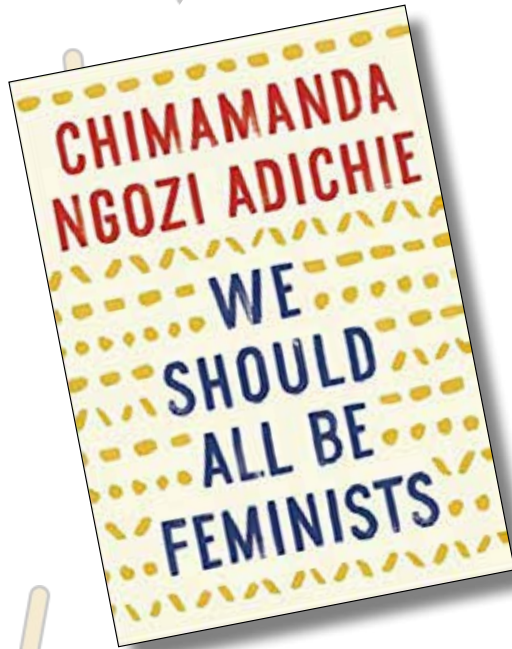
***THE UNLIKELY REFORMER: Carter Glass and Financial Regulation***  
By Matthew P. Fink  
228 pp. George Mason University Press. \$32.

In *The Unlikely Reformer: Carter Glass and Financial Regulation* (Spring 2019), author Matthew Fink explores the context and influence of Carter Glass, a much misunderstood and overlooked figure in the history of American finance. Glass—a U.S. senator from Virginia—is most widely remembered as the sponsor (with Henry Steagall) of the Glass-Steagall provisions of the U.S.A. Banking Act of 1933, which legally separated commercial and investment banking. But the Banking Act was the culminating achievement of a monumental career as a congressman, secretary of the treasury, and senator—a career marked by ferocity and paradox.

Glass was a limited-government oriented conservative and segregationist who was, however, also responsible for some

of the most important progressive pieces of financial legislation in U.S. history, including the Federal Reserve Act of 1913, which created mechanisms for addressing financial panics and managing the nation's currency, and provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which created the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the model New Deal agency. In *The Unlikely Reformer*, Matthew Fink explains how these apparent contradictions emerged together at a pivotal moment in the modern American era. As the first new study dedicated to Carter Glass published in over 75 years, it updates our perspective on the welter of assumptions, beliefs, and motivations underpinning a regulatory project that continues to be topical in the tumultuous contemporary moment. 

# It's No Surprise: The Libraries Loves Books, In All Forms!



Northern Virginia's 2019 Fall for the Book Festival, of which the Libraries is an annual sponsor, took place October 10-12, 2019.

While Fall for the Book was created to promote reading and literary expression, the festival's annual programming also promotes creative expression beyond the written word. Through a number of partnerships during the 2019 festival, the Libraries supported not only the literary arts but also visual arts, culinary arts, and musical arts through a variety of programming.

In particular, the Libraries was pleased to be a sponsor of Fall for the Book headliner, admired essayist and novelist, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Adichie's book, *We Should All Be Feminists*, was the 2019 Mason Reads selection. The Mason Reads program starts with a common book for incoming freshmen each year and encourages community discussion through a variety of academic and co-curricular events.

In conjunction with the festival, the Libraries' Fenwick Gallery presented *Call & Response: Transmogrify*. *Call & Response*—an ongoing partnership between the School of Art, the Creative Writing program, and the Libraries—is an annual exhibit of collaborations between writers and visual artists, in which one calls and one responds. The result is a dynamic set of paired works of words and artistic media that resonate and speak to contemporary issues.

In another collaboration with the arts, the Libraries' Special Collections Research Center, in partnership with the College of Visual and Performing Arts, hosted a concert and celebration in honor of the 20th anniversary of Kid Pan Alley as well as the gifting of the Kid Pan Alley and Paul Reisler archives of thousands of songs and instrumental compositions to the Mason Libraries. Kid Pan Alley was founded in 1999 by Paul Reisler with the mission to inspire and empower children to work together to become creators of their own music. Over the past 20 years, they have com-

posed over 2,700 songs with children.

Due to the popularity of the Libraries' first ever Edible Book Festival in April 2019, a special fall edition of the contest was held in celebration of Fall for the Book. Edible Book Festivals feature creative food projects that draw their inspiration from books and stories. Anyone may submit an entry, which is displayed on the day of the festival. Judges select winners for five prize categories, such as "Punniest" and "Most Visually Appetizing," while attendees get to vote for the sixth category, "People's Choice" (won this past fall by our youngest contestant, aged eight). Amy Sullivan, Head of Preservation Services at the Libraries and coordinator of the Edible Book Festival, was excited to see attendance double for the fall event, with about 200 people coming by to view, vote, and eventually eat the delectable entries. The Edible Book Festival is rapidly becoming a community favorite, and Sullivan plans to run the contest again in 2020. Stay tuned at <https://library.gmu.edu/edible/>.







Little Fires Everywhere, winner of the "Most Visually Appetizing" prize, inspired by the book of the same name.

A Magical Monstrosity, winner of the "Most Creative/Artistic" prize, inspired by the *Harry Potter* series.







# Mason Libraries Receives The John Ellison Loth Gustave Flaubert Collection

The John Ellison Loth Gustave Flaubert Collection, gifted to the Libraries in 2018, is a significant addition to our Special Collections Research Center's literary collections and rare book holdings.

The core of the collection contains hundreds of editions of Flaubert's famous—or infamous, depending which 19<sup>th</sup> century review one considers—*Madame Bovary*. In addition to editions of *Madame Bovary* spanning the years 1886 through 2014 and printed in eleven languages (French, English, German, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, Swedish, Turkish, Russian, Greek, and Portuguese), the collection contains Flaubert's other works and letters, as well as critical studies, biographies, and fiction inspired by and in conversation with Flaubert's original works. One delightful inclusion in the collection is the original English review of 1857 printed in London's *The Saturday Review* which deems the novel “not a work we can recommend any man, far less any women, to read.”

Lynn Eaton, Director of SCRC, remarks, “The generous donation of Mr. Loth is a tremendous asset to scholars, particularly those fascinated by the history and influence of literature. To be able to access so many editions and

translations really helps people see how one book printed over 150 years ago has been portrayed over time.”

This rich collection, amassed by John Ellison Loth over 28 years, was gifted in honor of Dr. Paula Ruth Gilbert, Professor Emerita of George Mason University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences (and Dean Emerita of the former College of Arts and Sciences). Professor Gilbert's scholarship in both Modern and Classical Languages (France/Québec) and Women and Gender Studies (Human Rights/Female Violence) has had a great impact upon her students, of which Mr. Loth was one.

When asked about his impetus for gathering the Flaubert Collection, Mr. Loth reflects, “In one sense, the collection can be conceived of as a reply to and negation of the 1857 review. It is a testament to Flaubert's literary creations that we are still reading and responding to *Madame Bovary* to this day. I am pleased to see my collection



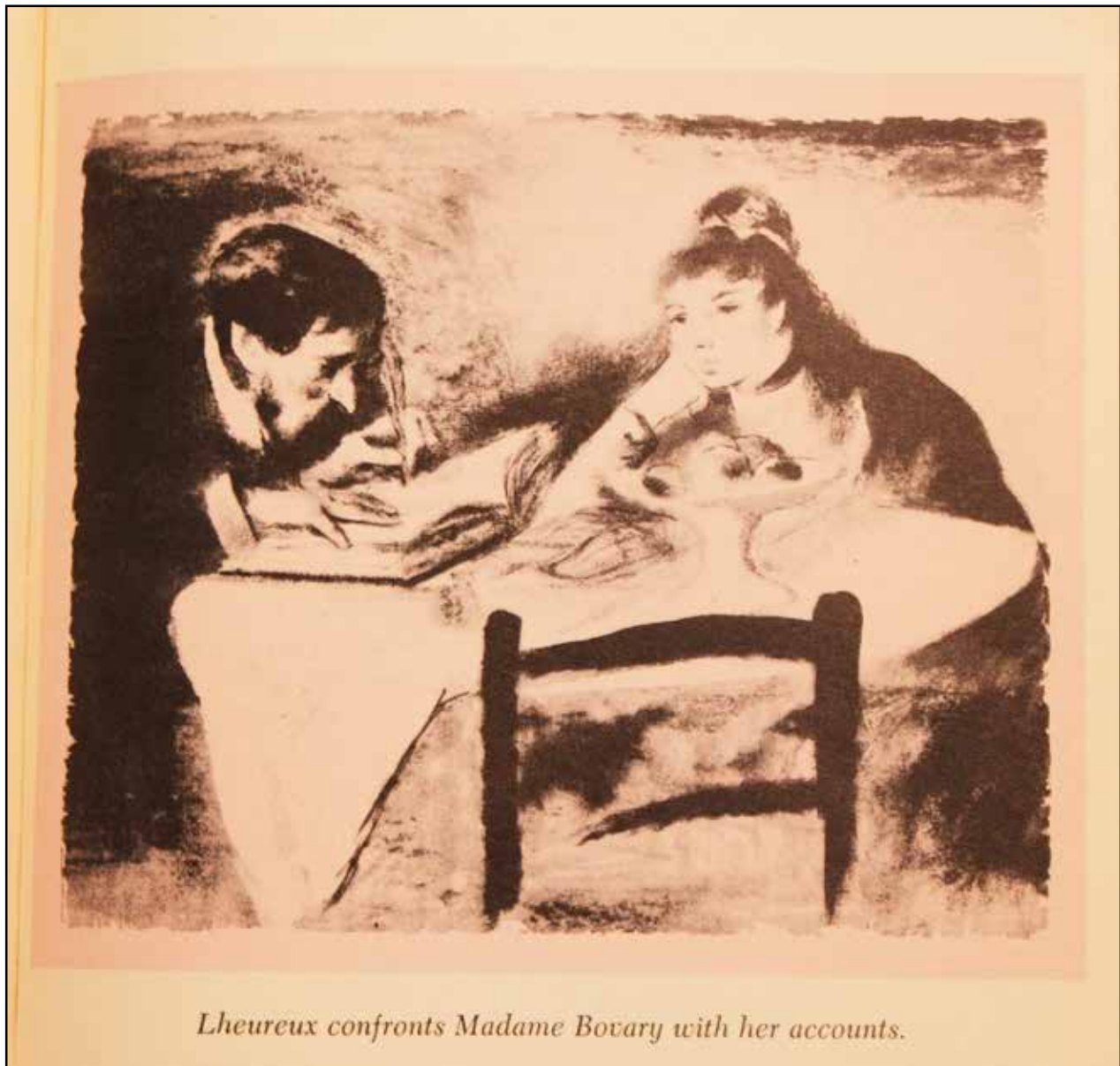


Illustration by Ben Stahl, in *W. Somerset Maugham presents Gustave Flaubert's Madame Bovary* edition. Opposite page: Some of the Flaubert collection in the SCRC book stacks.

housed at SCRC, where it is both safely cared for and accessible to students and community members for further examination and study.”

Of the collection, Professor Gilbert comments, “In a broad context, the Flaubert Collection is a valuable research tool for people from a variety of disciplines, such as 19<sup>th</sup> century French Studies; Literary Analysis; Language

Studies; Translation; Creative Writing; Art History (particularly the covers of the numerous editions and illustrated versions); French history; Women and Gender Studies; Sociology; Cultural Studies; Film (given the numerous adaptations from the novel); Theater; and Legal Studies (considering censorship during the Second Empire and Flaubert’s trial for immorality and obscenity—of which he was acquitted, unlike

Charles Baudelaire in his similar trial in the same year of 1857).”

The Loth Flaubert Collection, as well as many other collections, are available upon request for examination and study in SCRC’s Reading Room.

Inquiries about gifting items or visiting SCRC? Contact SCRC Director, Lynn Eaton, at [leton4@gmu.edu](mailto:leton4@gmu.edu). 

# Libraries Receives Estate Gift



Dopey animated cell from the Cohen Collection.



Martin B. Cohen in his office.

Thanks to a generous gift from the estate of Martin B. Cohen, the Libraries' theatre and film collections have been increased.

Martin Cohen, who passed away in March of 2019, was a professor of history at George Mason University where he taught for over 35 years. In addition to being a lifelong educator, Professor Cohen was a film and theatre enthusiast – attending movies and plays, collecting memorabilia, supporting the arts, and presenting lectures on related themes.

His collection of posters, playbills, lobby cards, and other movie and theatre-related ephemera and artifacts now resides in the Libraries' Special Collections Research Center (SCRC). Once all of the items have been processed, they will be available for examination by interested researchers.


A large part of the collection represents classical Hollywood cinema, with posters from such classics as *Spartacus*, *Quo*

*Vadis*, *El Cid*, *Our Hearts Were Young and Gay*, *Charlie Chan*, and others. Also in the collection are a number of animated cells, including originals of well-known characters including Dopey (Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*) and Jerry (Hanna and Barbera's *Tom and Jerry*).

Bob Vay, SCRC archivist and Mason alumnus, recalls a film course taught by Professor Cohen with delight, "Dr. Cohen had a deep knowledge of film and theater history and was one of the more entertaining professors with whom I had taken a class. I particularly enjoyed his 'History through Film' class. He would use clips from 1930s-era movies to illustrate then-current social mores, which often brought a chuckle out of our class of late 1980s college students. He had a wisecracking sense of humor and a deadpan delivery in class, which

helped me tune in to his lectures. Dr. Cohen is one of the faculty members who I remember most fondly."

The cinema posters and other items in the Cohen collection complement the robust and growing performing arts collections in SCRC, including the Federal Theatre Project and Works Progress Administration collections, Arena Stage Records, playbills collections, Living Stage records, the Zelda Fichandler papers, and others. Some of Professor Cohen's mementos from his time at Mason also enrich our University Archives collection.

In addition to his collection, Professor Cohen bequeathed generous funds to support SCRC in processing and preserving his collection. These funds will facilitate the hiring of a graduate student assistant to help organize and describe the materials to make them ready to use, and purchase special housing for some of the more fragile items in the collection to ensure their availability for future use. 



# George Mason University Libraries

## *Legacy Society*

The George Mason University Libraries Legacy Society recognizes alumni, faculty and staff, and friends who have made provisions for planned gifts to the Libraries. Planned gifts can be made through estate plans or other deferred gift payments.

*Members of the University Libraries Legacy Society include the following members:*

Anonymous  
\*Marjorie D. Atkins  
\*Martin B. Cohen, PhD  
Fabrizio Colombo  
\*Sam A. di Bonaventura, PhD  
Howard V. Kurtz  
\*Carol D. Litchfield, PhD

Randolph H. Lytton, PhD and Ellen N. Lytton  
Patrick F. and Félice L. McIntyre  
\*Hermine O'Reilly  
Irene Sabadini  
\*Darlene M. Scott  
Anita M. Taylor, PhD  
\*deceased

*If you are interested in making a lasting contribution to the  
George Mason University Libraries, please contact:*

*Kathleen Kehoe  
Director of Development for the University Libraries  
kkehoe@gmu.edu  
703-993-8740*

## Libraries Student Assistant Scholarships

Three students were selected to receive the Libraries Student Assistant Scholarship Award for the 2019-20 academic year: Ashleigh Houff (Teaching and Learning), Leigh Norman (Preservation), and Emily Rusch (Special Collections Research Center).

### About the Scholarship

The Student Assistant Scholarship Endowment for the Libraries was established through Giving Day efforts by the generosity of Mason alumni, friends of the university, and Mason faculty and staff. The purpose of the endowment is to award scholarships each year in order to assist undergraduate student employees of the Libraries with their educational expenses at Mason.



Left to right: Emily Rusch, Leigh Norman, Ashleigh Houff.

# Jo Ann Henson Receives 2019 Distinguished Library Faculty Award

Jo Ann Henson, Business and Economics Librarian, received the 2019 Distinguished Library Faculty Award. Henson's nomination for the award was a well-deserved acknowledgment of her 20 years' experience in the academic librarianship field and her reputation as a highly skilled and dedicated professional.

Since 2012, Henson has been the Business and Economics Librarian at the George Mason University Libraries, and her tenure has been marked by her active involvement in forming key partnerships with the School of Business and the Department of Economics and providing support for their students' and faculty's research endeavors. In addition to research and reference support, she leads over 40 instructional sessions each semester as well as ensures the Libraries' business and economics resources are current, up-to-date, and reflective of a broad array of disciplinary needs.

Prior to joining Mason, Henson was the Business Reference Librarian at Louisiana State University (LSU), where she was responsible for launching an annual "Meet Your Librarian" Day and for being the first librarian to schedule "embedded" office hours within the Business School. Prior to LSU, she worked as a librarian in both corporate and medical institution settings.

Among her colleagues in the Mason



Jo Ann Henson receives the Distinguished Library Faculty Award from Provost S. David Wu.

Libraries, Henson is recognized as personable, knowledgeable, and innovative. Both the faculty in the School of Business and the Economics Department (within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences) remark on her "dedication to student learning and success," her active "fostering [of] teaching, learning, and research activities," and her zeal as a "hardworking, dedicated, and talented librarian." Among all of her colleagues – within the Libraries, across the university, and external to Mason—common themes are her collaborative nature, entrepreneurial drive, and imaginative spirit.


In addition to her role at the Libraries, Henson is a frequent presenter at conferences and workshops, as well as heavily engaged in professional associations such as the American Library Association (ALA) and the Capital Area Business Librarians group (CABAL). As a founding member of CABAL and the 2018-19 chair, she is recognized by her peers as a dedicated and conscientious leader. Henson's academic background includes a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Library and In-

formation Science, both from LSU.

Of the award John Zenelis, Dean of Libraries and University Librarian, said, "I am pleased to announce the award committee's selection of Jo Ann Henson for this year's Distinguished Library Faculty Award. Ms. Henson is a well-deserving recipient of this award, and I wholeheartedly endorse her colleagues' sentiments. Jo Ann is a credit to the profession of academic research librarianship and a valued member of the Mason Libraries' team. Her enthusiastic support of the Mason community is invaluable to student success."

The 2019 Distinguished Library Faculty Award selection committee members were: Kathleen Bell, Sally Evans, Kimberly Hoffman (Chair), Susan Stockwell, and Robert Vay.

To be considered for the award, library faculty are assessed on the performance of their professional duties, as well as their scholarly and service contributions to the academic research library field and to higher education. Award recipients exemplify this threefold role: have a strong reputation among their colleagues at Mason and outside the institution; actively foster the teaching, learning, research, and public service mission of the Libraries; and embody organizational values such as innovation, collaboration, and leadership.

The Distinguished Library Faculty Award is awarded on an annual basis at George Mason University's Celebration of Teaching Excellence, organized by the Stearns Center for Teaching and Excellence. The 2019 event was celebrated on the afternoon of Monday, April 15 at the Center for the Arts on Mason's Fairfax Campus. 





Wally Grotophorst receives an Outstanding Achievement Award from Interim President Anne Holton.

# Wally Grotophorst Receives University Outstanding Achievement Award

Wally Grotophorst, Associate University Librarian for Digital Strategies and Systems, received a 2019 University Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of his conceiving the Mason Open Educational Resources Metafinder.


The OER Metafinder facilitates Mason's and the Commonwealth's commitment to affordability in higher education by helping faculty discover no-cost learning resources across more than 20 repositories. Since its launch, this pioneering technology tool has been adopted far and wide beyond George Mason University—by some 400 universities, colleges, and other higher education entities in the United States, Canada, and other countries (<https://publishing.gmu.edu/whos-using-the-mason-oer-metafinder/>). It was referenced as an exemplar project in the 2020 EDUCAUSE Horizon Report-Teaching and Learning Edition. The OER Metafinder is a true testament to Grotophorst's creative dedication

to Mason students and faculty as well as to the university's reputation as a leader in open educational initiatives.

When asked about the impetus for developing the OER Metafinder, Mr. Grotophorst responded that he was spurred "...to help faculty identify open resources that they can adopt for the courses—and thereby save the students some money and still provide quality instruction. To support that desire, I had the idea of developing a search engine that would go across the various OER sources and help a curious faculty member quickly see what sort of things might be available."

In support of Grotophorst's nomina-

tion, Dean Zenelis said, "As a long-term library faculty member, Wally has contributed tangibly to the advancement of the Libraries' overall program and, as well, to numerous technology-related endeavors on a university-wide level. The significance to higher education of his most recent accomplishment—the development of the OER Metafinder—cannot be overstated."

The annual Outstanding Achievement Awards ceremony, held every fall at the university, celebrates the hard work, dedication, and achievements of Mason's faculty and staff across several awards categories. The Outstanding Achievement Award category was designed to recognize individuals for their significant, long-term achievements for the betterment of the university and whose actions exemplify Mason's values. Grotophorst was honored at the 2019 event held on the morning of Thursday, October 31, in Dewberry Hall on Mason's Fairfax Campus. 

# Libraries Faculty and Staff Service Recognition

The following Libraries faculty and staff were recognized for their service to George Mason University and/or the Commonwealth of Virginia at the 2019 University Day Service Awards celebrations on April 2, 2019 (5-15 years of service) and April 4, 2019 (20+ years of service).

## 5 Years

Jane Atwell, Resource Acquisition,  
Access and Resource Management

Erika Coronado, Resource Acquisition,  
Access and Resource Management

Cutrice Harris, Virtual Library of Virginia

Renee Prokop, Administrative Services,  
Office of the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

Stephanie Westcott, Virtual Library of Virginia

## 10 Years

Ian Fairclough, Metadata Services,  
Access and Resource Management

Mark Hoban, Access Services,  
Access and Resource Management

Elena Landry, Arts and Humanities Team,  
Learning, Research and Engagement

Taneisha Mazyck, Teaching and Learning Team,  
Learning, Research and Engagement

## 15 Years

Debra Hogan,  
Office of the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

Christopher Magee, Social Sciences Team  
and Arlington Campus Library,  
Learning, Research and Engagement

## 20 Years

Teresa Kan, Sciences and Technology Team  
and Mercer Library, Learning, Research and Engagement

Heather Leadingham, Metadata Services,  
Access and Resource Management

George Oberle, Arts and Humanities Team,  
Learning, Research and Engagement

John Zenelis,  
Office of the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

## 25 Years

Edgar (Danny) Gomez, Metadata Services,  
Access and Resource Management

Robert Vay, Special Collections Research Center,  
Learning, Research and Engagement

## Libraries Staff Excellence Award

The Staff Excellence Award is an annual award presented to Libraries staff members in recognition of their outstanding contribution to fostering an environment of collegiality and teamwork, and ensuring library services exceed faculty and student expectations. Our 2019 recipients were:

Amanda Brent, Processing Coordinator,  
Special Collections Research Center

Joyce Price, Resource Cataloging and Processing Cataloger,  
Metadata Services



Amanda Brent and Joyce Price shake hands after receiving their awards.



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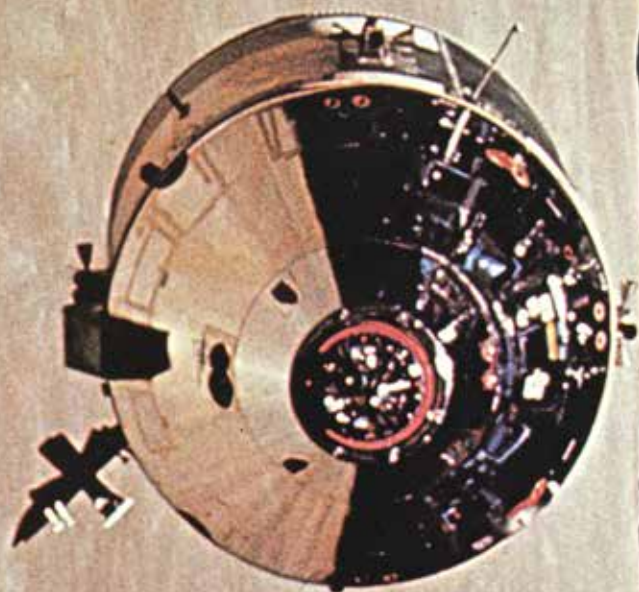




*The Libraries at Mason*  
Jessica A. Clark, Editor  
Emily L. Cole, Designer

*The Libraries at Mason* is published by the George Mason University Libraries. Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be directed to: Office of the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, MS 2FL, Fairfax, VA 22030, [library@gmu.edu](mailto:library@gmu.edu).

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About the Back Cover Photo: Jane Fonda speaks at the Indochina Peace Initiative event at Mason in 1974. George Mason University *Broadside* photograph collection, #R0135, Special Collections Research Center.



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