



Bindings

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
LIBRARIES

WINTER
2015/2016

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ON THE COVER: A detail of Johann Remmelin's Catoptrum microcosmicum [microcosmic mirror]. Published in 1619, this is the most extensive anatomical "flap book" produced during that time.

From the collection of the John Martin Rare Book Room in the Hardin Library for Health Sciences.



Bindings

The pages of a book are held together by its binding. Sewn together, one after another, each page adds to the book.

Bindings represents the continuing relationship between the University of Iowa Libraries and those who use and support it.

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Michael Hall, director of the Iowa Consortium of Veteran Excellence (ICOVE), lectures on video games and the brain during Veteran's Week activities in the Main Library Learning Commons. Read about this on page 16.

A focus on library expertise

UI Libraries continues to evolve, anticipating user needs with staff experts who help students and faculty succeed.



John Culshaw, University Librarian

“Serving our users’ needs is key to our Strategic Plan—a road map for user-centered research librarianship.”

—John Culshaw

As a busy fall semester winds down on campus, the UI Libraries is in full swing assisting students, faculty, staff, and members of our community.

Serving our users’ needs is key to our new Strategic Plan—a road map for user-centered research librarianship. Over the next three years, our mission will be driven by four guiding statements:

1. The Libraries **promotes student academic success** by engaging in all aspects of the educational continuum to support lifelong learning.
2. The Libraries **advances knowledge and practice** by providing active support throughout the research lifecycle, from identification of the problem through dissemination of results.
3. The Libraries **explores new frontiers** in areas of distinction through innovations that build upon interdisciplinary strengths, expertise, and collections.
4. The Libraries **engages Iowa’s diverse communities** by providing information resources and services that contribute to economic and cultural vitality and to the health and quality of life.

We’re able to embark on this new vision for the UI Libraries because of our knowledgeable staff, who provide key services to our users. We’ve been fortunate to hire talented librarians who join an already deep well of experts in the Libraries.

In this issue of *Bindings*, you’ll read about how our staff is moving forward with new services, such as expanded borrowing for Iowans and assistance with research data for faculty and students. We are active campus partners, collaborating at an individual level with faculty and students, as well as on an institutional scale to develop the infrastructure necessary to support scholarly and creative work.

We will be in touch with you throughout the coming year, which promises to be full of events, including our Gallery’s grand opening in January and an exhibit of Shakespeare’s First Folio in August/September.

We are grateful for your support of the UI Libraries and look forward to serving you and the entire University of Iowa community in 2016.

DIY crowdsourcing



CAMPUS PARTNERSHIP: UI Museum of Natural History staff carefully selected a collection of birds' eggs with handwritten cards as the focus of an innovative project to bring the collection and its data into searchable view for researchers, birders, educators, and anyone searching online.

sourcing

library innovation brings museum collection to life

The University of Iowa Museum of Natural History's collection of 130,000 specimens offers more than meets the eye.

Detailed data accompanies nearly every item in the museum's collection. Though rich in information that could yield promising avenues of research, data collected by hand can be difficult to search and analyze.

What if this data were digitized? What might researchers learn?

The good news is that museum fans, history enthusiasts, and anyone with access to a smart phone, tablet, or computer can help make the museum's data available to all, thanks to a partnership between the Museum of Natural History (MNH) and the UI Libraries' DIY History project.

Museum staff have carefully selected a collection of birds' eggs with handwritten identification cards as the focus of an innovative project to bring the collection and its data into searchable view for researchers, birders, educators, and anyone searching online.

Hatching a plan

MNH and DIY History are collaborating to enlist public assistance in the transcription of 1,950 handwritten data cards that describe just a fraction of

the 17,000 birds' eggs in the museum's collections. Most of the cards are over a century old, and this vast and aging collection has presented a unique challenge to museum staff because some egg sets are matched to their cards while other eggs and cards have become separated.

"The cards are handwritten, hard to read, not searchable, and in danger of physical deterioration," says Trina Roberts, Pentacrest Museums director. "The stacks of cards and boxes of eggs need to be carefully curated so the right data is with the right egg. This would be a lot easier if the card data were in digital form."

*What if this
data were
digitized?
What might
researchers
learn?*

Continued on page 8

Cleaning, scanning, and transcribing

MNH Collections Manager Cindy Opitz partnered with Giselle Simón, UI Libraries' head conservator, to develop methods for separating egg cards that had been glued together over a century ago. Next, American Studies Intern Samantha Exline and volunteer Heather Widmayer carefully cleaned and scanned the cards to create high-resolution digital image files.

The scanned egg cards are now available and ready to be transcribed through DIY History, the libraries' crowdsourcing transcription project. DIY History has already enlisted the help of the online community to transcribe over 60,000 pages of everything from recipes to the diaries of Civil War soldiers.

"Crowdsourcing has become an increasingly popular method for museums, archives, and libraries to achieve big transcription projects," says Roberts. "We know there is a knowledgeable, trainable, interested community of helpers out there, and the Internet gives us a way to take advantage of their willingness to help—and they can do it at 3 in the morning, if that is what they want."

Bringing information to the surface

Digitizing the egg cards can transform underutilized data into valuable scientific and historical information for researchers.

The cards document the dates and locations of eggs collected over the span of decades. This information is crucial when tracking changes in specific bird populations.

For example, the insecticide DDT was banned after it was found to be toxic to both humans and wildlife. Key evidence came from those observing bird populations, documented by toxicologists who found that increased levels of the chemical in eggs corresponded with thinner egg shells.

"For something like the DDT research on eggshells, measurements must be taken from the actual eggshells. The data cards tell us where and

“The bottom line is that we’re not doing this specifically because of any one scientific question but to make the information digital and easily searchable so that it’s usable by any scientist, anywhere, for projects that we haven’t even dreamed of.”

—Trina Roberts,
Pentacrest Museums Director

when those eggshells came from, allowing scientists to track changes in eggshells over time or over space,” says Roberts. “This research could not have been done without museum collections of eggshells from before and after the advent of DDT.”

Museums' data feed future discovery

Digitization projects like that of the egg cards can raise public awareness about what museums and libraries offer.

“Our hope is that this project will make people more aware of the treasures we have hidden in our collections,” says Opitz.

Increased awareness can spark interest in new research, resulting in discoveries not yet imagined. “The bottom line,” says Roberts, “is that we’re not doing this specifically because of any one scientific question, but to make the information digital and easily searchable so that it’s usable by any scientist, anywhere, for projects that we haven’t even dreamed of.”



Want to join the project? Anyone can sign up to transcribe for DIY History. Visit diyhistory.lib.uiowa.edu

106, a. 1/2 = 10059 Gray = 286 A. O. U.

Haematopus palliatus.

Oystercatcher.

Taken 30th May 1868 by C. M. Jones.
on Cobb's Island, off the coast of Cape
Charles, Va. Nest scratched in the
sand & lined with broken shells.

Most of the egg cards in the Museum of Natural History's collections are over a century old. The cards document details about how the eggs were collected and generally include location, date, species name, and key observations about the eggs and nest.



History of medicine

Preserving past views of human anatomy

Alison Phillips recently completed a three year project to create a facsimile of a rare 17th century flap book, *Catoptrum Microcosmicum*. Published in 1619 by Johann Remmelin, this was the first anatomical atlas to use dozens of engravings superimposed as a series of opening flaps as method of illustration. The book is part of the collection in the John Martin Rare Book Room in the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences. In fragile condition, handling the book could further damage the flaps. The solution? Create a replica sturdy enough for frequent use.

Phillips, who earned her doctoral degree in art history from the University of Iowa in 2012, did the work entirely as a volunteer.

Summary of the process

Beginning with the photographs of the original, Phillips edited and aligned the flaps in Photoshop and made mock-ups of each page using plain paper and glue.

Next she took new photographs of the original to ensure she had images of all the flaps. Using Photoshop, she edited the images to remove all the visible fingers and tools, aligned the flaps, and printed the finished flap images on off-white paper. She also printed images of each page on handmade paper donated by the Center for the Book.

Phillips then cut, assembled, and attached the flaps with wheat paste to the full-page handmade paper printouts. Finally, she folded open the layers and allowed each page to dry beneath weights until the flaps lay flat. The end result of Phillips' work can be viewed by request at the Hardin Library.

Continued on page 12



LAYER BY LAYER, Allison Phillips replicates the fine details of *Catoptrum Microcosmicum*, a rare 17th century flap book of human anatomy published by Johann Remmelin.



Johann Remmelin

The fame of Johann Remmelin (1583-1632) rests almost exclusively with the publication of his *Catoptrum microcosmicum*, probably the most extensive anatomical “flap book” ever produced. Remmelin was town physician in Ulm and later Augsburg where he also served as plague physician. While at Ulm, he conceived the notion of producing an anatomy that could be used to reveal in successive layers, the muscles, bones, and viscera of the human body. He employed one of the leading Augsburg artists, Lucas Kilian (1579-1637) to render the engravings which were based on Remmelin’s own drawings. In 1613, some of his friends had the copper plates engraved at their own expense and published them without Remmelin’s approval. In 1619, Remmelin published his own edition, complete with text and other explanatory material. This is the edition displayed here.

The work was printed using eight separate plates which were then cut apart and pasted together to make the three large plates. In some cases a single illustration may have as many as 15 successive layers which can be teased apart to reveal both surface and deep structures. In keeping with the practice of the day, Remmelin incorporates a variety

of metaphysical and allegorical images and adages into the plates. The title, *Catoptrum microcosmicum*, [microcosmic mirror] reflects the classical notion of man as microcosm (i.e., the epitome) of the universe.

Catoptrum microcosmicum went through numerous editions and was published in Latin, German, French, English, and Dutch. The last edition was published in 1754. Although a highly popular work it was never practical as a teaching aid owing to the probable high cost of the book, its size, and the flaps themselves that were no doubt too delicate for use in a dissecting laboratory.

The Hardin Library’s copy of *Catoptrum microcosmicum* is notable for its binding which is made of vellum salvaged from an incunable which may have been published as early as 1470. Our investigation shows the binding to be a bifolium from an edition of the Constitutiones of Pope Clement V with surrounding commentary of Johannes Andraea. The parent work was printed in Mainz in either 1467 or 1471 by Peter Schoeffer, a younger colleague of Johannes Gutenberg and one of the first commercially successful printers in Europe.

<http://sdr.lib.uiowa.edu/exhibits/imaging/remmelin>



John Martin Rare Book Room

John Martin (1904-1996) began collecting rare and valuable medical books in 1947. His first purchase was a first edition of Andreas Vesalius’ *De Humanis Corporis Fabrica Libra Septum*, published in 1543. He continued to collect these books whenever he could afford to do so, and often when he could not, for the rest of his life. In 1971 he gave his collection to the University of Iowa.

The nearly 6,500 volumes in the John Martin Rare Book Room are original works representing classic contributions to the history of the health sciences from the 15th through 21st Centuries. Also included are selected books, reprints, and journals dealing with the history of medicine at the University and in the State of Iowa.

If you would like to support the John Martin Rare Book Room, please contact Mary Rettig, UI Libraries’ liaison to the UI Foundation, at mary-rettig@uiowa.edu or 319-335-3305/800-648-6973. You may also visit www.uifoundation.org/libraries.

Libraries mentor undergrad research fellows

Friends of the Libraries fund intensive training for four top scholars

by Tom Keegan, director, Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio

This fall the University of Iowa Libraries welcomes four Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU) fellows. The ICRU fellows program partners talented and highly-motivated undergraduates with research mentors in an area of interest to the student. Students engage in hands-on learning and research while developing a valuable set of skills and professional networks.

Thanks to Friends of the Libraries, the UI Libraries is able to partner with ICRU in jointly funding these fellows. This pilot program will introduce undergraduates to the rich spectrum of research taking place within the UI Libraries and to strengthen the collaborative connections between students and librarians.

Preservation and Conservation, Research and Library Instruction, Special Collections, and the Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio will each host an ICRU fellow for the 2015-2016 academic year. These students and their mentors will take on an array of projects that illustrate both the breadth of research and the productive collaborative scholarship occurring in the UI Libraries.

Katie Heffner (English, Education) is working with Amy Chen (Undergraduate Instruction Librarian, Special Collections) to research zines and the alternative press culture of the 20th century. As a result of her research, she plans to generate an activity for Iowa students as part of the All Campus Redacts initiative in the UI Libraries. This activity will combine best practices in the field of undergraduate student engagement and methods sourced from secondary education.

Clarice Kelling (Education, Theatre) is working with Katie Hassman (Undergraduate Engagement Librarian, Research and Library Instruction) to design, implement, and assess a semester-long library program that will pilot during the Spring 2015 semester. The program will provide students, the UI campus, and surrounding local communities the chance to engage in a collective writing activity that highlights and leverages many of the great resources we have here in the UI Libraries.

Sarabeth Weszley (English, Interdepartmental Studies – Engaged Social Innovation) is working with Tom Keegan (Head, Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio) on the creation and circulation of born-digital student works. As Sarabeth explores new avenues for the design and implementation of digital assignments, she'll be working with librarians and faculty members to thread new pedagogical approaches into the curriculum.

Katie Rouw (Art, Art History) is working with Beth Stone (Assistant Conservator, Preservation and Conservation) on the NEH-funded Keith/Albee Vaudeville Scrapbooks project. Katie assists in conservation efforts, as she learns new techniques and guides a scrapbook through the conservation process. In the Spring 2016 semester, Katie will study abroad in Florence, where she will undertake a comparative analysis of American and Italian conservation techniques.

The fellows will present their findings at the Spring Undergraduate Research Festival in April 2016.

Research data

The UI Libraries hosts seminars to explore best practices for and sustainable methods of storing and sharing research data.

For many researchers, storing, maintaining, and sharing research data is more important than ever.

Recently, many federal funding agencies have expanded their requirements for public access to research results. Researchers in all disciplines must now “better account for and manage the digital data resulting from federally-funded research.”

To assist researchers with data management questions, the UI Libraries hosted a series of seminars this fall with guest speaker Heidi Imker, director of the Research Data Service (RDS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

During her seminar, “Capitalizing on Research Data: Management, Dissemination, and Archiving,” Imker shared information on how researchers can meet new funder requirements for research data management and leverage public access requirements to increase the visibility and impact of their research.

Imker urges researchers to view the new requirements from funding agencies as an opportunity to regard research data as an important product of scholarly work. Sharing data widely can enhance visibility for researchers, as well as create a collaborative environment of research process verification and results validation.

Such activities will be key to increasing the pace of discovery and demonstrating the importance of research.

In addition, Imker says higher demand for efficient data management tools means researchers may have better options to choose from when it comes to gathering, analyzing, and depositing data in public access repositories.

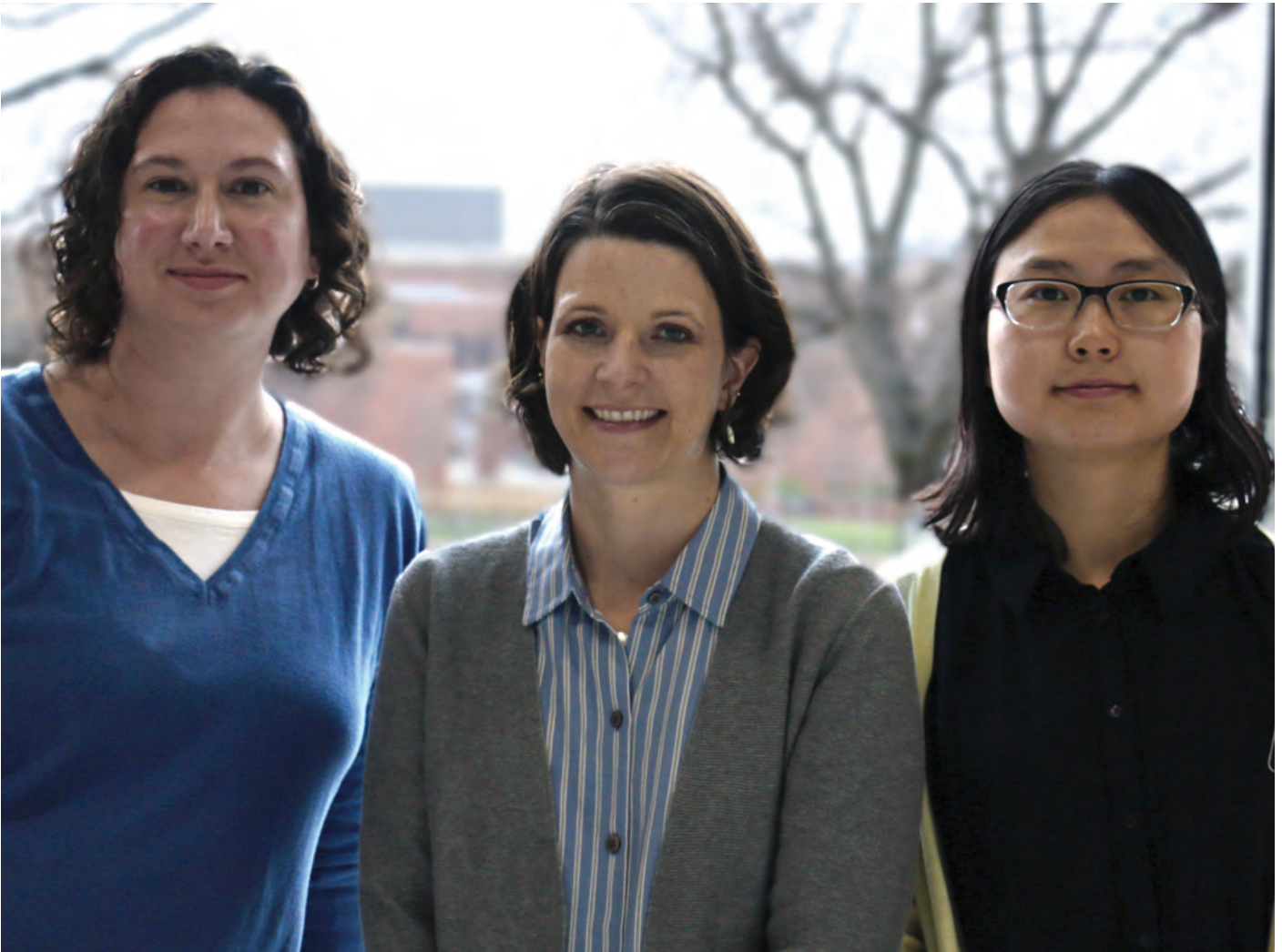
The University of Iowa Libraries works in collaboration with other campus offices, including the Office of the Vice President of Research and Economic Development, the Iowa Informatics Initiative, and Information Technology Services, to support researchers’ data management needs.

<http://guides.lib.uiowa.edu/data>



“Dr. Imker identified three opportunities for managing, disseminating, and archiving research data: a) boost efficiency; b) extend broader reach; and c) let someone else steward the data for the researcher. Compliance, standardized documentation, and secure storage are important, as well.”

—UI researcher and seminar attendee

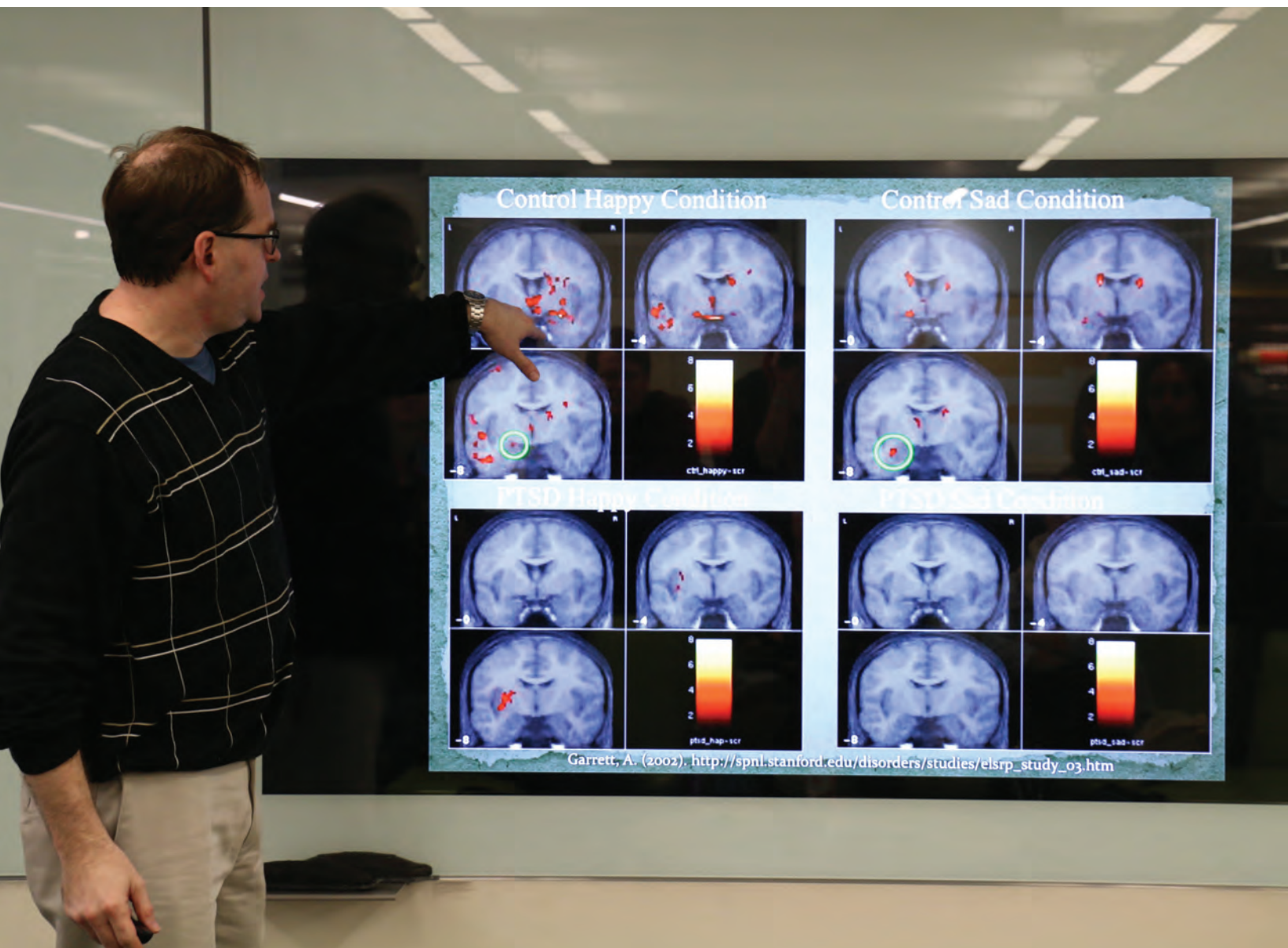


RESEARCH DATA LIBRARIANS Sara Scheib (left) and Marina Zhang (right) with Heidi Imker (center). As director of RDS, Imker oversees a campus-wide service headquartered in the University of Illinois Library. RDS provides the Illinois research community with the expertise, tools, and infrastructure necessary to manage and steward research data.

Call of Duty

Event series opens dialog with student veterans

Research libraries are in a unique position to foster respectful, in depth discussions about a wide range of topics, especially difficult ones. With resources at hand, the UI Libraries is called to offer students opportunities to learn how to listen and express views in civil discourse.



Michael Hall—staff neuropsychologist at the Iowa City VA Health Care System and adjunct faculty in the Psychiatry Department at the University of Iowa—discusses research showing that traumatic stress may impact development of brain regions important for emotion processing.



While at the University of Iowa, students discover themselves, form interests, and forge life paths. Those who fully participate in this learning process take an active role in forming culture and structuring society.

*Through **DISCUSSIONS IN PROGRESS** events, the UI Libraries provides place and occasion for students to approach discussion as a powerful agent for positive change.*

“Discussions in Progress: About Military Life” was held the week of Veteran’s Day, November 9-12 in the Main Library Learning Commons. Travis Arment, who directs the UI’s Military and Veteran Student Services, Lisa Kelly from Teaching and Learning, and Learning Commons librarian Brittney Thomas collaborated to create opportunities for veteran and non-veteran students to discuss military life. This four-day event series was designed to:

- teach students how to engage in civil discourse about controversial issues.
- debunk common stereotypes of military life and wartime experiences.
- use the popular video game *Call of Duty* as an entry point to discuss specific issues such as violence in media, stereotypes in gaming, the effect of life-like graphics on game content, and video games’ effect on the brain.
- honor our veterans on Veteran’s Day by encouraging all students to engage in discussions with veterans, get to know them, learn about their experiences and travels, discover how veterans’ perspectives enrich our campus, and create a sense of campus community that includes our UI student veterans.

Tournament play invites discussion

A *Call of Duty* tournament opened each day of the event series, offering opportunities to engage in conversation with UI student veterans. Immediately following the tournament, students discussed various

aspects of gaming. Four guest speakers presented during the course of the week.

Gamer to Gamer—As gamers with different life experiences, a veteran (Ben Rothman) and a non-veteran (Kaitlin Jones) led a conversation about varying perspectives on the video game *Call of Duty*.

Video Games & Art—Matt Butler, UI Libraries Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio, talked about video games as art, tracing how advances in technology have enhanced the realistic look and feel of the gaming environment. Students discussed this question: has visual realism prompted game developers to make controversial narrative choices?

Video Games & the Brain—Michael Hall, UI faculty in psychology and neuroscience, presented research on video games and the brain, including areas of the brain activated by gaming, gaming’s effect on the brain’s pleasure centers, early data on whether gaming can be neuroprotective, and what too much gaming can do to the brain.

Stereotypes & Video Games—Hannah Scates Kettler, Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio, discussed stereotypes and gaming. Kettler said that arguably more than any other media, video games challenge/re-inscribe our notions about identity. She prompted students to ask, “Who gets to participate in gaming? What roles are gamers encouraged to adopt? Do video games promote more fiction than reality regarding military service?”

The Studio

Supporting the UI campus with collaborative digital scholarship

The University of Iowa Libraries has launched the Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio, a new unit serving faculty, student, and community scholars with an expert staff and access to a range of digital tools and platforms.

A centrally funded campus resource, the Studio also houses the Studio Scholars Program, a faculty research group dedicated to the development of both large- and small-scale faculty projects related to Digital Humanities (DH) efforts in the arts and humanities.

Studio services

The Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio embraces scholarly creativity, encouraging interdisciplinary research and multi-platform circulation. The Studio helps scholars tailor the presentation and application of their research to a variety of audiences.

The Studio's commitment to the university community holds four intertwined goals:

Research—Foster interdisciplinary collaborations among faculty, students, staff, and citizens, using established and emerging digital tools to create and share knowledge.

Instruction—Help UI instructors thread their research into university and community curricula.

Training—Provide workshops for faculty and students in new digital tools and platforms.

Publishing—Increase internal and external access to the knowledge created through UI research.

Expertise

The Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio offers a collaborative staff of 12 who contribute specialized expertise to Studio projects.

UI faculty and students working with the Studio can tap a range of skills that would be difficult to access otherwise.

Specializations include digital humanities research, GIS mapping, video creation, data visualization, 3–D modeling, art and design, project management, digital exhibitions, collections management, document and media preservation, web and software development, instruction, writing, and editing.

As part of the University of Iowa Libraries, the Studio works with a variety of Libraries departments to ensure research data circulation, curriculum development, responsible treatment of UI research, and proper archiving.

The Studio also works in close connection with other campus resources, including Student Instructional Technology Assistants (SITAs) and Iowa Digital Engagement and Learning (IDEAL).

Tom Keegan serves as director.

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N^o 334



CHINESE ST. JOHN'S-WORT, artist Sydenham Edwards.
This is plate no. 334 from Curtis's Botanical Magazine,
vol. 10, 1796. Editor, William Curtis.

Find this and more in Curtis Botanical Images in the
Iowa Digital Library (IDL). IDL features over a million
digital objects created from the holdings of the
UI Libraries and its campus partners.
The Studio coordinates the IDL collection.

Keegan's teaching and research address the use of digital humanities and publicly engaged pedagogies across a variety of curricula. With Matt Gilchrist, he co-founded Iowa Digital Engagement and Learning (IDEAL), a University of Iowa student-success initiative that encourages assignment innovation to engage undergraduate students with digital scholarship practices in learning research, writing, and presentation skills.

Judith Pascoe, professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been selected as the inaugural senior scholar for the Studio and overseer of the Studio Scholars program. Pascoe's work addresses 18th- and 19th-century literature and culture. The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, an American Council of Learned Studies Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, and a Fulbright Japan Lecturing Award, Pascoe is widely regarded for her scholarly work.

Along with Pascoe, a faculty steering committee will establish the research agenda for the Studio Scholars Program.

Studio history— a strengthened endeavor

The Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio combines two formerly separate departments: the Office of the Provost's Digital Studio for Public Arts & Humanities and the University Libraries' Digital Research & Publishing.

These two former departments were already co-located, shared certain infrastructure, and worked with many of the same faculty, often on common projects.

The new Studio fully unites the resources and people—and missions—of the two departments, aligning institutional resources to position the university to become a leader in sustainable, recurring funding for digital humanities and other forms of digital scholarship.

Current STUDIO projects

The end of this calendar year finds the Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio engaged in exciting work on network analysis, mapping, and cultural heritage. Professor Loren Glass of the English Department—along with Ph.D. candidate Nick Kelly and Digital Humanities Research & Instruction Librarian Nikki White—is researching the growth and influence of creative writing programs after World War II. The project, called **Mapping the Program Era**, has commenced work with a data set focused on the University of Iowa's Writers' Workshop and its impact on programs and aesthetics at a national level.

Julia Oliver Raja, Lecturer in the Spanish & Portuguese Department, is working with Digital Collections Librarian Mark Anderson, GIS Specialist Rob Shepard, and Digital Humanities Research & Instruction Librarian Hannah Scates Kettler on a **Puerto Rican cultural heritage and oral history project**. The project examines how the decline of the Puerto Rican coffee industry has affected dialects on the island as different demographics move from the mountain regions to the coasts.

These projects are just two of the many ongoing Studio collaborations with faculty and graduate students. The new year will see the unveiling of several new projects as the Studio continues its support for digital scholarship at Iowa.

Find the Studio at <http://studio.lib.uiowa.edu>



Making the connection

Librarians bring resources to teachers & researchers.

Librarians in the Research & Library Instruction (RLI) department are focused on serving undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, providing assistance on a wide range of projects.

Most RLI librarians act as liaisons, connecting instructors with appropriate course materials, developing curricula, and helping with research. They are committed to collaborative efforts that complement classroom instruction and respond to the informational needs of students.

In addition, RLI librarians work with faculty to promote the development of students' critical thinking and research skills. They support campus-wide research, teaching, and learning through user-centered services:

- One-on-one research consultations
- Innovative instructional services
- Subject specialist consultations
- Chat & e-mail reference

All UI Libraries provide reference, research, and instructional services.

Positive results

RLI librarians provide one-on-one assistance to help our users find resources that can fuel their research or creative work. For example, researcher Manuel Vilas, poet and storyteller, reached out to Lisa Gardinier, liaison to Latin American & Iberian Studies. As a result, Vilas learned of resources in the UI Libraries Special Collections pertinent to his work.

Following this lead from Gardinier, Vilas returned to Special Collections, where he consulted the collection of Pedro Lastra, a noted Chilean writer. Among the four boxes



PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE: letters to Pedro Lastra from renowned Spanish language writers, including Nobel Prize winners Gabriel García Márquez and Mario Vargas Llosa.

of materials in this collection are over 900 personal letters to Lastra from over 100 influential Spanish language writers, including two winners of the Nobel Prize in Literature: Colombian writer Gabriel García Márquez and Peruvian writer Mario Vargas Llosa.

The Lastra collection provided key information for an article, which Vilas submitted to *Babelia*, the literary supplement of Spain's major newspaper, *El País*. Vilas' article was published in *Babelia* on November 26, 2015, along with photos of the Lastra collection in the UI Libraries.

[Read Vilas' article](http://tinyurl.com/vilaslastra)
<http://tinyurl.com/vilaslastra>



Break from Busyness

Pre-finals week activities in the Learning Commons

Break from Busyness Challenge is a pre-finals week event that challenges students to take short breaks from studying. The event was inspired by WNYC's Bored and Brilliant Challenge.

Organized by Katie Hassman and Cathy Cranston (UI Libraries Undergraduate Engagement Librarians) in collaboration with Learning Commons Coordinator Brittney Thomas, the program is based on research indicating that people are better at problem solving, retain more information, and experience increased creativity after taking regular breaks.

The Libraries began to offer Break from Busyness in the spring semester of 2015, with plans for ongoing and iterative assessment to determine how to improve and revise.

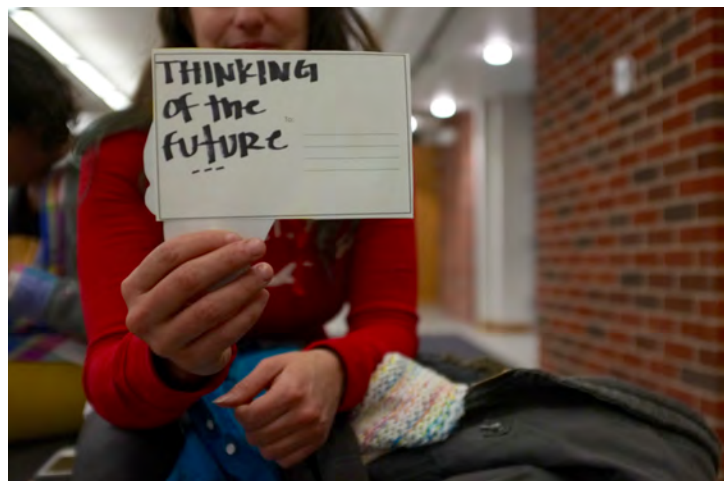
This fall, the Libraries offered short activities that prompted students to interact with library resources. Each of the activities was designed with broad learning outcomes in mind.

All activities were set up as stations, and students could move from station to station as desired. About 50 students completed at least one activity at both the spring and fall programs.

Students' responses to the program have been positive. We interviewed many of them after they participated and found that they appreciated the opportunity and reminder to take a break during a stressful finals season.

One student said, "You need to take breaks [as a student] and people don't really tell you that often enough, they really don't."

Contributions from Friends of the Libraries support finals week activities, which boost student success across campus.

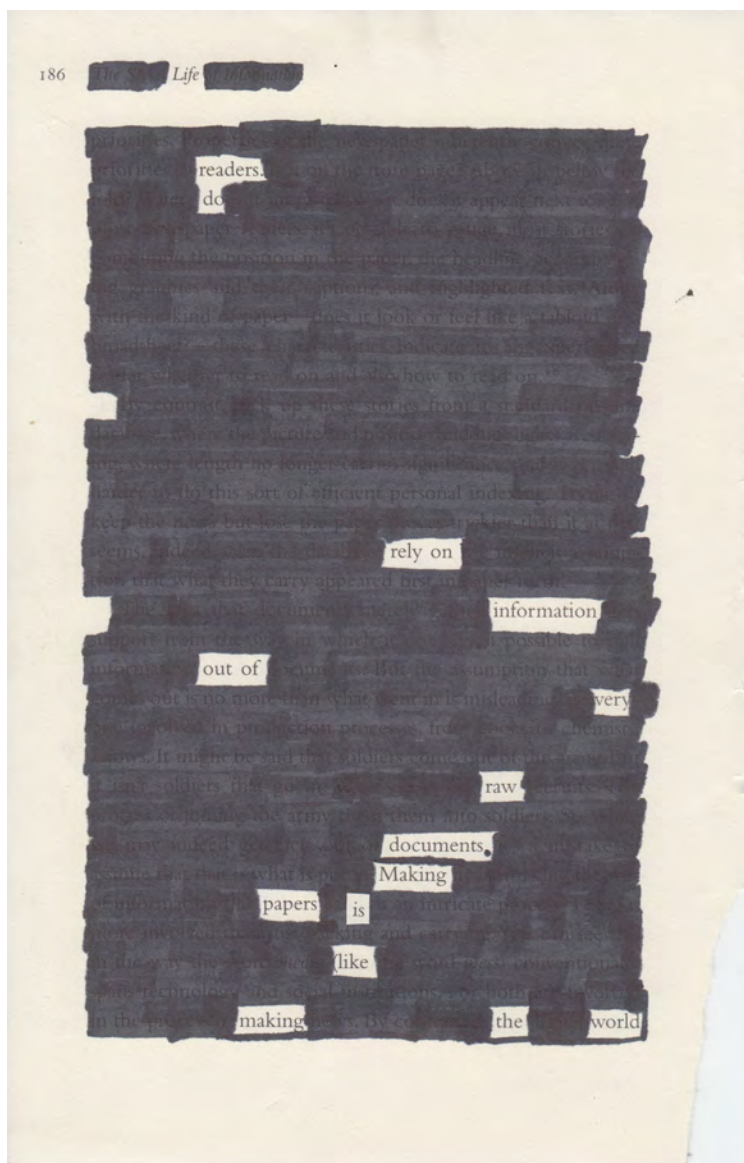


COLLAGE! Students were invited to create a postcard collage-style. Collages were made mostly from recycled book covers from our circulating collection.

The card shown above won first place in the juried competition. The card shown below (held by the student) is the back of the collaged postcard that won third place.



Break from Busyness is based on research suggesting that taking breaks is beneficial for our minds. The program is focused on supporting student success by enhancing information literacy as well as critical and creative thinking.



REDACT! - Tear a page from a book. Grab a document from a stack. Find a column in the newspaper that compels you. Then grab a black marker (and other materials, if you wish) and black out the text you want to get rid of. Find a new message. That's where it's at.

Students in the photo above are in the process of redacting text at the fall 2015 Break from Busyness.

The photo to the left is a redacted message from this year's program.

Visit the UI Undergraduate Engagement Librarians' Tumblr to see more photos and read about all the activities offered during the fall semester's Break from Busyness.

<http://uilibengage.tumblr.com/bfb>



Valuable work experience for high school students



Durin Mulhim Nasr, in the Google Books project room in the UI Main Library.

To get job experience, many high school students have few choices: either take a position that offers little to no professional development or find an internship without pay.

The solution? Thanks to the Friends of the Libraries, a pilot program provides funds for one or two high schools students to gain valuable experience while also earning a paycheck.

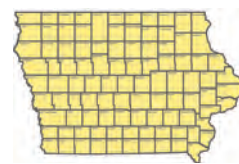
The program exposes students to various functions performed by an academic library. This summer, Durin Mulhim Nasr worked in the UI Libraries Access Services, reporting to Amy Paulus, head of access services.

Nasr worked with the Libraries' laser disc collection, checking in discs and researching each title to check for copies of the same title

in other video formats. Looking at the large collection at the beginning of the summer, Nasr remembers thinking, "How am I going to finish this? I did complete it, and I felt a sense of accomplishment." Nasr also worked on the Google Books project—an initiative to scan books from many libraries to make them widely available to the public.

Throughout his summer employment, Nasr received support from Paulus and others. "The whole staff were super welcoming. The experience working on campus will help me in the future, since I plan to attend here at the UI," he says. He is quick to recommend the program. "It's a good idea, not only because you learn, but because you get to do good work." And, as a bonus, Nasr says, "You stay in the study habit through the summer."

Expanded services for library users across Iowa



The University of Iowa Libraries is pleased to announce a new borrowing policy that expands services for our patrons.

All faculty in the state of Iowa

The new policy allows all higher education faculty across the state to borrow books for one year.

By showing a current faculty ID card from their university or college at the service desk at the Main Library, Hardin Library for the Health Sciences, or a branch library, faculty will be issued a borrower's permit that will allow them to check out books for one year. Previously, the loan period was for 4 weeks.

Apply for this borrower's permit online a few days before your visit to Iowa City. We hope this change in service will allow better use of our collection across the state.



[Apply online for your
UI Libraries borrowing permit
www.lib.uiowa.edu/forms/permit](http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/forms/permit)

DID YOU KNOW?

The UI Libraries issues library cards to Iowans. You can apply for a library card if you are:

- An Iowa resident with proof of residency and a picture ID (such as a current Iowa drivers license).
- Any Friend of the University of Iowa Libraries can get a library card.
- A K-12 student enrolled in an Iowa school with a picture ID and written request on letterhead paper from the librarian, administrative official, or teacher of an Iowa school. Alternatively, a student can show proof of residency, a picture ID and a written request from their parent/guardian.
- A spouse or domestic partner of UI faculty, staff, and students. If not an Iowa resident, you must show a Spouse and Domestic Partner ID Card.

On-campus services for UI faculty, students, and staff

NEW PAGING SERVICE—Beginning January 4, 2016, you can request up to 10 items for pickup at the Main Library through our catalog. Please request materials before 12:00 a.m. midnight for pickup after 12:00 p.m. noon the following business day. Requests received on a Friday will be ready the next Monday.

UBORROW—When you have immediate need for items that are not available from the University of Iowa Libraries, search UBorrow. UBorrow enables you to find and request books directly from 15 major research libraries, with combined collections of more than 90 million volumes.

[Learn about and search UBorrow at guides.lib.uiowa.edu/uborrow](http://guides.lib.uiowa.edu/uborrow)





FILM CREW IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS—The Big 10 Network will run a feature on the University of Iowa Center for the Book, including views of rare books in the Libraries' Special Collections. Greg Prickman, head of Special Collections shows students Missa Romanum, Italy ca. 1400.

Meet Mary Rettig

The UI Libraries' liaison to the UI Foundation



Mary Rettig, director of development for the UI Libraries

Since coming on board nearly a year ago as the UI Libraries' director of development, Mary Rettig has hit the ground running. A UI alumna with a master's in library science (1980), she brings enthusiasm for the institution as well as expertise in librarianship. "I want to raise money for UI Libraries because I believe in the mission and I want to be associated with UI Libraries because I am a librarian at heart!"

Rettig works with Libraries staff toward increasing resources for student success. "I'm especially excited about the UI Libraries Student Employee Scholarship, perhaps because—like so many other librarians—I was drawn to the profession by working in the library as a student, both at Luther College, where I earned my BA, and while a SLIS student (I worked in the music library under Rita Benton)," she says.

Working with the Libraries staff has been an easy transition for Rettig. "The staff is helpful, friendly, and has welcomed me as a colleague—not an outsider," she says. "I've really appreciated that!"

UI Libraries Student Employee Scholarship Fund

Each fall, many UI faculty and staff make donations to support the University of Iowa through "We Are Phil," the faculty/staff philanthropy program.

This year, UI Libraries employees—led by staff members Sara Riggs and Leo Clougherty (pictured here at the "We Are Phil" kick-off event on September 28, 2015)—contributed their own funds to launch a new Libraries Student Employee Scholarship Fund. This new scholarship will support our student employees who carry out some of the Libraries' most important work: serving our users.

Interested in investing in a student's future?

If you would like to support the UI Libraries Student Employee Fund, please contact Mary Rettig, UI Libraries' liaison to the UI Foundation, at mary-rettig@uiowa.edu or 319-335-3305/800-648-6973. You may also visit www.uifoundation.org/libraries.



Bindings

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES
100 Main Library
Iowa City, IA 52242-1420
www.lib.uiowa.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for Friends of the Libraries

- January 31 * Gallery Grand Opening and ribbon cutting, with a special reception for the gallery's first exhibit, *Explorer's Legacy—James Van Allen and the Discovery of the Radiation Belts*
- February 1 Public opening of *Explorer's Legacy*
- April 8 Last day to view *Explorer's Legacy*
- April 24 * Star Trek exhibit opening reception
- April 25 Public opening of Star Trek exhibit
- May 5 * Spring Friends' Event
- August 29 Shakespeare's First Folio special exhibit opens to the public

** This event is by invitation only for Friends of the Libraries, with thanks for your support!*