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University Libraries Annual Report 2017

Description

2017 Annual Report from the University of Denver, University Libraries. The annual report highlights programs, projects, and activities that occurred during the year, as well as details of normal operations and brief statistics.

Keywords

Annual report, Library statistics, Donor funding, Special collections

Disciplines

Library and Information Science



2017

ANNUAL REPORT



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends of the University Libraries,

Thank you for your support of the University of Denver Libraries. Every day, I am inspired by the dedicated faculty and diverse and talented students that we serve. I'm also inspired by the loyal generosity of donors; thank you.

Support of the University Libraries impacts everyone in our community. Your gifts fund essential resources of a university education, including books, databases, technology, collaborative programming between library faculty and teaching professors, digitization of collections to make them accessible to anyone with an internet connection, items to grow our special collections of unique and rare materials, and attentive, thoughtful, service-focused employees.

By supporting the University Libraries, you help undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff from all academic departments, and researchers and friends from a vast scholarly community beyond the geographic environs of the University, thereby authenticating DU's vision to be a great university dedicated to the public good.

I'm proud of the University Libraries' faculty and staff for providing the highest level of service to students and patrons through superior resources in a welcoming and affirming environment. This report highlights achievements and acquisitions of 2017, and demonstrates how we directly impact the student experience. As a library friend, I hope you are proud as well. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Michael Levine-Clark
Dean, University Libraries



During quarterly final exams, the University Libraries host stress-relief events including chair massage, snacks, crafts, and visits with furry, four-legged friends.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The University Libraries include the Main Library in the Anderson Academic Commons, the Bonfils-Stanton Music Library in the Newman Center for the Performing Arts, and the Hampden Center (off-site storage).



As the Anderson Academic Commons (ACC) anticipates its fifth anniversary in 2018, we continuously re-examine the requirements and preferences of our patrons to fine-tune the building and address current needs. Generously named with a gift from Ed Anderson '71 and his wife Linda Cabot, this facility makes available a variety of academic services for students, as well as guidance for faculty to innovate and excel in teaching. We offer varied seating options, group study rooms, carrels which may be reserved for an academic quarter, designated areas for conversation or silence, instruction rooms, and a café

named by a gift from Mary and Doug Scrivner '77. Located at the heart of campus, we host events, curate and display exhibits, model sustainable practices, and offer a wide range of print and digital collections, computers, 3-D printing, video cameras, and other gadgets.

In 2017, we expanded the availability of reservable, long-term silent study carrels by moving these to the Gilbertson Family Quiet Study Room. We enlarged Special Collections to accommodate growing collections and the demand by faculty for access to primary sources in support of teaching. Other adjustments include expansion of academic departments offering assignment help to students, and development of a service to help faculty and students easily record professional quality lectures and presentations.

The Bonfils-Stanton Music Library in the Lamont School of Music offers music scores, books and journals on music and musicology, audio and video recordings, and a room equipped for their use.

The Hampden Center serves as a repository for our less-used items, although these are promptly delivered to campus upon request by patrons. The Hampden Center has partnered with Dan Jacobs, Director, Vicki Myhren Gallery and Curator, University Art Collections, to provide climate controlled, secure storage for some of DU's art collection. Local cultural institutions in Denver also have arranged to store works here in exchange for funding improvements to the building.

We welcome you to the AAC and Music Library anytime. Our hours of operation can be found at library.du.edu. The Hampden Center is not open to the public except by special arrangement.

FACULTY & STAFF



MICHAEL LEVINE-CLARK, DEAN

Michael became Dean of the University Libraries in 2016, having started his DU service in 1999. His leadership focuses on finding ways to bring to life the goals of the University's Strategic Plan, IMPACT 2025, within the University Libraries. He guides the Libraries in supporting teaching, research, scholarship, and creative endeavors by providing diverse resources and services. Preserving our cultural heritage, facilitating lifelong learning, and inspiring our students and faculty to question, contemplate, and engage are lofty goals.

(From left) Associate Deans Jack Maness and Carrie Forbes, Dean Michael Levine-Clark

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION & COLLECTIONS SERVICES

Jack Maness, Associate Professor and Associate Dean

Jack oversees behind the scenes library operations involving collections and the infrastructures that provide access to them, with the goal of expanding access to published and unique content through multiple strategies, bringing to light the hidden gems in our archives and special collections.

Jeanne Abrams, Professor and Curator of the Beck Archives

Kevin Clair, Associate Professor and Metadata & Digitization Librarian

Kate Crowe, Associate Professor and Curator of Special Collections & Archives

Erin Elzi, Assistant Professor and Design & Discovery Librarian

Karl Pettitt, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Cataloging & Metadata Services

In addition to library faculty, the University Libraries have a stellar staff of 49 people, reporting to the librarians and dean. We also employ 70 undergraduate and graduate students in positions of significant responsibility. Each and every library employee is essential to our being able to offer resources and services from early morning until after midnight for all but about one week per year.



University Library staff distributes eclipse glasses to patrons during the solar eclipse on August 21st, 2017.



STUDENT & SCHOLAR SERVICES

Carrie Forbes, Associate Professor and Associate Dean

Carrie oversees the libraries' public services including research support, instruction, outreach/programming, and borrowing and lending services, with the goal of increasing collaboration with campus partners to support new curricular and pedagogical practices, to provide advanced research support for students and faculty, and to improve ease of access to information.

Reference Librarians provide services for collections, reference, and instruction. While some focus their work on specific academic departments, others work broadly to support the libraries' instructional programming and student outreach activities.

Jenny Bowers, Professor and Social Sciences Reference Librarian

Chris Brown, Professor and Reference Technology Integration Librarian

Ellwood Colahan, Assistant Professor and Music & Performing Arts Reference Librarian

Meg Eastwood, Assistant Professor and Science & Engineering Reference Librarian

Bridget Farrell, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Library Instruction & Reference Services

Esther Gil, Associate Professor and Business & Economics Reference Librarian

Peggy Keeran, Professor and Arts & Humanities Reference Librarian

Elia Trucks, Assistant Professor and User Experience & Student Outreach Librarian

Access Services provide patrons with "access" to collections, through interlibrary loan, reserves, and materials delivery, and to our libraries' physical spaces, keeping the AAC building open 105 hours per week, including 24-hours per day during finals.

Ryan Buller, Assistant Professor and Access Services Librarian



After an almost forty-year career in the University Libraries, **Steve Fisher** retired in June 2017. He started at Penrose Library in 1977 as the Assistant Curator of Special Collections. For many years he was University Archivist and Curator of Special Collections, and was appointed University Historian in 2012.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

We continuously expand our special collections by acquiring artifacts that serve as original sources of information for research and teaching. We also license a wide range of digitized primary source collections from libraries and museums worldwide. Our librarians and staff work with University faculty to incorporate tangible and digital primary sources into classroom learning. Our special collections distinguish the University Libraries, providing unique hands-on opportunities for our patrons.

In 2017, we purchased digital personal diaries, oral histories, letters, maps, government documents, and more, providing insight into immigration, colonial America, and race relations. We added video collections in music, counselling and therapeutic work, and data related to American demographics. These resources, alongside our archival collections, help students understand people of different cultures and eras. We know from student and faculty feedback that embedding such resources into coursework captivates students in meaningful ways, helping them to draw connections with their own experiences, and create deep engagement.

In 2017 the Dance Library acquired a scrapbook of gelatin prints documenting Christopher Gluck's "Orpheus and Eurydice" choreographed by German modern dance legend Mary Wigman in Leipzig in 1947. These images were included in 2017's "Ritual, Myth, and Archetype in Early Modern Dance" exhibit in the Anderson Academic Commons.



In 2017, we acquired the personal library of photographic artist and DU alum James Milmo, MFA 1978. His work is featured in many museum and private and corporate collections. He is also an internationally respected photographer of fine art, paintings, and sculpture. His 2,000 volumes on photography, photographers, cameras, and related arts have been added mostly to our Special Collections. Many are books full of images rather than text, and are a valuable resource for students of studio art, American history, travel photography, collection methodology, and the history of photography.

Kate Crowe, Curator of Special Collections and Archives, James Milmo '78, Michael Levine-Clark, Dean.



Jeanne Abrams, Curator of the Beck Archives, contributed to an interactive digital display called “Jewish Roots of Denver’s West Side” at the Gonzales Branch of the Denver Public Library. Including many historic photos from DU’s Beck Archives, the exhibit features aspects of Jewish life in the neighborhood. According to Abrams, “Denver’s East European Jewish population began to grow in the 1870s, and was augmented by a major influx of Russian Jews in the 1880s. Fleeing economic hardship and religious discrimination, many were attracted to opportunities in America.” Health also played into Jewish population growth. Abrams explained, “In the early 1900s, the West Colfax Jewish neighborhood took in impoverished immigrant Jews who came seeking a remedy for tuberculosis in Colorado’s dry and sunny climate.” Many TB victims became patients at the Jewish Consumptives’ Relief Society (JCRS) or National Jewish Hospital for Consumptives (NJH). The historical records of both Colorado sanatoriums are in the Beck Archives, and photographs from JCRS and NJH are in the digital exhibit. Professor Abrams’ preservation of Denver Jewish history celebrates the contributions of a culturally rich and diverse community.

Joseph Goldhammer recently gifted a rare jug from the Goldhammer liquor company to the Beck Archives. Jewish immigrant Adolf Goldhammer, born in 1847 in Hungary, came to Denver in 1885 and owned a saloon and liquor store on West Colfax. To serve as an unofficial but important neighborhood center, he opened his establishment to the Jewish community for meetings, lectures, debates, and theatrical productions.



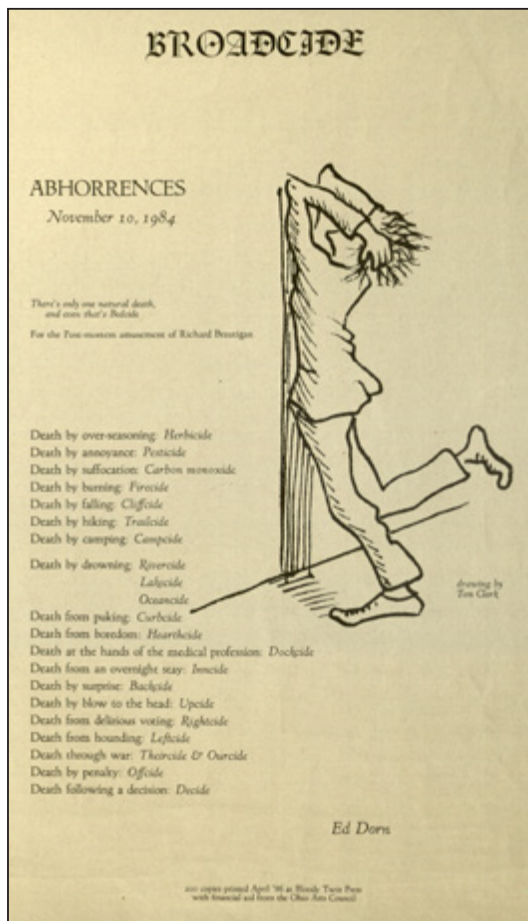
We continually seek donations that fit into our main collecting areas and are interested in new collections that expand on these:

- ▶ University Archives: records of the University from its founding in 1864 to the present, including academics, athletics, faculty research, Chancellors’ records, Board of Trustees documents.
- ▶ Beck Archives of Rocky Mountain Jewish History: a repository of the heritage of Jewish culture in the region.
- ▶ Carson Brierly Giffin Dance Library: historical resources about all types of dance, especially in the Rocky Mountain region.
- ▶ Fine Press and Artists’ Books: highlighting the beauty of the book-as-object, and emphasizing hand-printing techniques.
- ▶ Center for Ski History: personal papers, organizational records, publications, and ephemera related to the history of skiing and other winter sports, with a focus on Colorado and the American West.
- ▶ Cookery and Foodways: focusing on American regional cookery and including volumes from around the world.
- ▶ Manuscripts and Rare Books

EXHIBITS & EVENTS



In 2017, the University Libraries hosted 20 exhibitions, with a focus on the breadth and depth of special collections and archives, and increasing curricular and co-curricular collaborations. We have become a principal partner and location to showcase the work of students, faculty, academic units, and other university programs and organizations. We hosted 288 events in our Special Events Room, and nearly 2,000 meetings and events throughout the building. Our exhibits and events benefit from the opening of the Anderson Academic Commons since, prior to the library renovation, we lacked dedicated display and event areas. An exhibit endowment, created by gifts from Margaret V. Peterson '49, Dr. Helen G. Morris, and Taylor Kirkpatrick '04, helps fund exhibits and related programs.



To add to our existing broadside collection, many of which are on display throughout the AAC, we recently acquired about 500 broadsides with funding from the Gottesfeld, O'Fallon, Towne, and Davis Moore endowments. A broadside is a poem or a snippet of a work printed on a single page, and includes a combination of custom typography, layout, and artwork created by a printmaker or designer. Faculty from a variety of disciplines bring classes to use broadsides with the help of the Curator of Special Collections, Kate Crowe. Bin Ramke, Professor and Phipps Chair, Department of English and Literary Arts, a frequent collaborator and proponent of our broadsides said, "The collection inspires me as a writer and as teacher. Being able to show the esthetic intensity of language on the page is a powerful teaching tool, especially when the page is an art object. In an Ed Dorn poem 'Broadside,' a pun on 'broadside' and on forms of death, visual and linguistic language games open up with humor and shock. Many works in this collection have connections to the literary history of Denver and Boulder, to the Beat movement, as well as to countercultural movements generally. For my creative writing classes, students research, comment on, and organize broadsides into an exhibition."

The Carson Brierly Giffin Dance Library annually hosts a "Legends of Dance" event, celebrating that year's honorees whose video-recorded oral histories are added to the Dance Library collection.





The 1773 edition of the captivity narrative of Mary Rowlandson, acquired in 2017, was the subject of a display and program coordinated with Peggy Keeran, Professor and Arts & Humanities Reference Librarian, and English professor Billy Stratton. We are building a collection of “captivity narratives,” historical accounts of settlers who experienced confinement among Native American people, supporting the recommendation of the University’s Task Force on Native American Inclusivity to integrate “Native American topics and themes into the curriculum and develop courses that address Native American culture, history, spirituality, literature, and experience.” The Patricia Black Vardaman endowment provided funding for acquisition of this seminal work.

An exhibit titled: “The Exotic Made Accessible: Culinary Tourism in the Time-Life’s *Foods of the World* series” curated by student Dunja Saghir, with co-curation by Rebecca Macey, Manager of Exhibitions and Programs for the University Libraries, uses the Time-Life *Foods of the World* series from our Cookery and Foodways Special Collection, to show how this popular set of cookbooks familiarized Americans in the ‘60s and ‘70s with ethnic and foreign cuisines for home cooking. Through ‘culinary romanticism,’ and explaining a region’s history, along with glossy photo essays, the *Foods of the World* series made unfamiliar culture accessible to a white American middle class. Saghir, a DU student from Germany, said of her experience, “It was astounding how much information I was able to gather with these cookbooks/travelogues. The Special Collections staff was helpful and I learned so much about archives and how DU came to possess its collections. I expanded my research skills, gained expertise on foreign food, learned how to evaluate and select which information to share, and how to present my findings to my professor and to the staff of Special Collections. This was meaningful to me because I experienced DU not solely as a student but as part of a Special Collections research team.”

IMAGE AND CAPTION FROM TIME-LIFE’S FOODS OF THE WORLD

A festive party in Taiwan has just been served neatly sliced Peking duck. Meat and skin plus scallions and hoisin sauce are wrapped inside a pancake and eaten with gusto. The appearance of this major dish is the signal for a toast drunk in rice wine, and the playing of the finger game. Two players simultaneously fling out varying numbers of fingers and shout their guesses, often at the top of their voices, of the total number of outstretched fingers. If one guesses correctly, the loser must down a drink. A run of bad luck can have dire results.



TEACHING & LEARNING

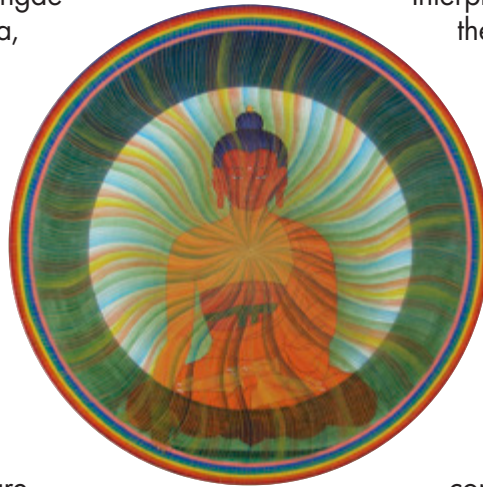
The University Libraries support and impact students in many ways. In fiscal year/academic year 2017, we spent more than \$6 million on acquisitions, averaging over \$500 per DU undergraduate and graduate student. Our reference librarians offered nearly 400 information literacy sessions, helping students develop valuable research skills. Students who know how to find, evaluate, and use information are more successful academically and are equipped to become life-long learners. In addition to research instruction, we engage students through exhibits, events, and collections.

DU alum Joe Moreland '71 created a library fund for information literacy, allowing Scott Phillips, Sociology & Criminology professor, to work with Jenny Bowers, Professor and Social Sciences Reference Librarian to transform his course, "Sociological Imagination and Inquiry." Phillips said, "We found intriguing social information all around us including in commencement bulletins in the library's archives, providing insights about the changing relationship between gender and higher education over time. Working with Kate Crowe, Curator of Special Collections and Archives, students examined pictures in the *Clarion* (DU newspaper) from the 1940s to the present, and coded how often men and women were depicted engaging in intellectual and athletic pursuits. Students learned to enter data into SPSS, the predominant social science software, to analyze the data and interpret the findings. Students discovered that newspapers provide a non-reactive data source, and how archival collections provide unexpected insights – in this case about gender, sport, and law. DU libraries provide access to the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research; my students now understand that sometimes the best data on a topic have been collected and are publicly available. To incorporate secondary data, Jenny Bowers helped us examine the U.S. Census, the American Communities Survey, and a study of income inequality. The Moreland grant allowed updates to my class; changing the culminating project, using the library's archives, and exploring secondary data were terrific learning experiences for the students."



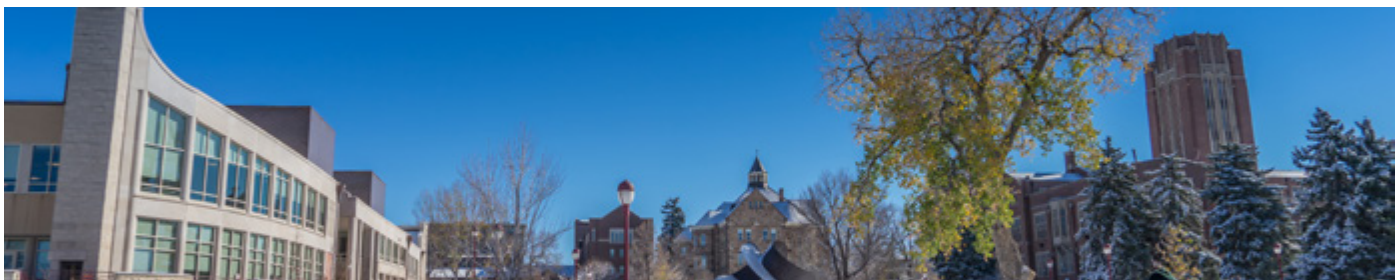
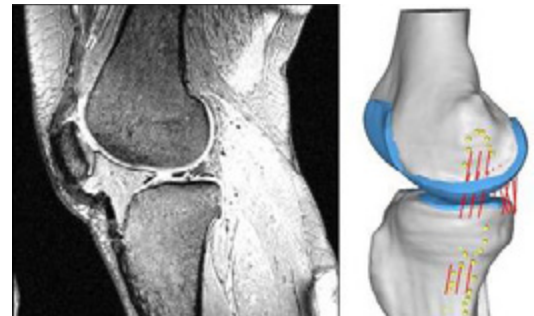


In 2017, we were gifted a collection of over 5,000 digital images from the Thangde Gatsal studio in Dharamsala, India, including paintings, drawings, and iconographic studies, to comprise one of the largest contemporary sets of Tibetan Buddhist images in the world. The University Library Association provided funding to add the images and titles into a searchable database (Digital DU) for use by the public. Along with images of the paintings are drawings and a manuscript explaining traditional elements and iconography. We share collections digitally with researchers in art history, anthropology, philosophy, comparative



studies, and religious studies. Dr. Sarah Magnatta, Interpretive Specialist of Asian Art for the Denver Art Museum and Affiliate Faculty, School of Art and Art History at DU, says, "I use the images from Thangde Gatsal for several courses, including Buddhism in Art, Sacred Art of Asia, and Tibetan Art History. The images show the continuation of traditional Himalayan painting styles and provide figures from which to discuss iconographical identifiers. In addition to showing these as traditionally constructed contemporary paintings, I contrast them with contemporaneous works that challenge traditional methods, materials, and construction."

Through our institutional repository, Digital Commons, current, historical, and unique resources produced by DU faculty and students are made freely available for use worldwide. A frequently accessed collection is from DU's Center for Orthopaedic Biomechanics, the Natural Knee Data collection, which contains data, MRI scans, and CT scans of human knees, along with 3D computer models. The data and models are useful in the design of prostheses and replacement knee joints, and have been used around the world. The international impact of Digital Commons is reflected across all disciplines as faculty and student scholarship, course materials, in-house publications, data sets, and conference proceedings have 225,995 downloads in 213 countries since 2015. Digital Commons is generously supported by the William I. Smith Family Foundation.



For information about giving to the University Libraries, or to receive news and announcements, including invitations to exhibits and events, please call 303-871-3958 or email Nancy.Clark@du.edu.

MISSION

The University of Denver Libraries connect students, faculty, staff, and the broader University community to knowledge in all forms. Reflecting the University's mission, we support teaching, research, scholarship, and creative endeavors by providing diverse resources and services for all stages of the information lifecycle. By so doing, we preserve our varied cultural heritage, facilitate lifelong learning, and inspire our students and faculty to question, contemplate, and engage.



University Libraries
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