

Friendscript

A Librarian and a Scholar

University grants honorary degree to Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden

The event was Commencement, but somehow it seemed more like a homecoming. At its 2019 ceremony, the University of Illinois bestowed a Doctor of Humane Letters degree on Carla Hayden, the 14th person to serve as Librarian of Congress and only the third trained librarian to hold that position.

For the University, the day provided a unique opportunity to honor a person whose profession ties closely with one of the campus's greatest assets.

For John Wilkin, UI Dean of Libraries, the moment offered a chance to nominate and welcome the acclaimed leader of the largest library in the world.

And for Hayden, the pleasure proved twofold: an occasion to be recognized professionally by an institution that houses one of the great libraries in the nation, as well a time to savor connections with local family.

"I know we do not have royalty in this country," said Chancellor Robert J. Jones during the celebratory weekend, "but at a university like ours, where the University Library is the revered heart and soul of the institution, I believe the Librarian of Congress comes as close to royalty as we will ever get."

Hayden's appointment to her current position is remarkable in several ways. Since the establishment in 1800 of the Library of Congress—the oldest federal cultural institution in the U.S.—a mere handful of its leaders have held academic backgrounds in the library field. (Hayden received her master's and doctoral degrees in library science from the University of Chicago.) In addition, she is the first woman and first African American to serve in the post, to which she was appointed in 2016.

Of the three notable hallmarks, "the most important ... professionally is the fact that I am a librarian by training," Hayden said in a recent interview with *Friendscript*. As she interacts with people considering the library profession, she said she finds that her accomplishments as a woman serve as a sign of encouragement; and as a person of color, her achievements reflect a "personal aspect because people that look like me were denied the right to read for so many years—by law."

"What's interesting about Carla is that [as the Librarian of Congress] she is a scholar, and at the same time, she really is a librarian," Wilkin said. With a professional career that has included stints

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Fred Zwicky

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

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

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Help the University Library reduce its carbon footprint. Contact Heather Murphy if you are interested in receiving future issues of *Friendscript* by e-mail.

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

Printed with UV ink on recycled paper.

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Building Project Update

Renovation plans continue to take shape

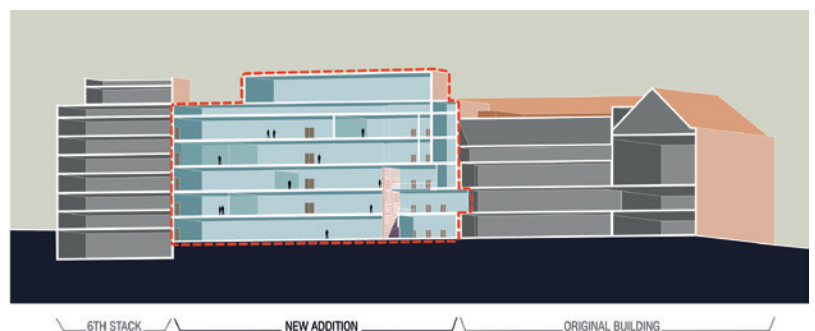
LIBRARY
BUILDING
PROJECT

As anyone knows who has handled a major renovation, the devil is in the details. And those details are being vigorously hammered into shape as the Library moves ahead in reimagining its future. In working toward that goal—a collections-centered research hub for the humanities and social sciences, and a home for special collections in what is now the Undergraduate Library—significant strides have been made over the last several months through in-depth talks with professional firms, campus colleagues, and in-house personnel.

At this stage, “the framework of the Main Library conceptualization is clear,” according to Dean John Wilkin, who expects that by early fall, similar progress regarding the special collections research center will be on the cusp of finalization. In addition, the Library Consultation Working Group—a campus-wide faculty committee that provides strategic insight into the project—will conclude its work at the end of October.

Other developments involved:

- Three days of on-site visioning activities in May, led by the two consulting firms tasked with the building project (JLK Architects and brightspot strategy); meetings focused on the Main Library structure led to a report with options of conceptual plans
- Dennis Craig assigned as project coordinator from University of Illinois Facilities & Services; Craig also serves as the Campus Historic Preservation Officer
- Ongoing discussions with various internal Library committees, as well as faculty and groups from the wider campus



A 3-D cross-section view of the Main Library conceptual model from JLK Architects.

“The conceptual models developed through all of these activities were shared broadly,” Wilkin said, “and we are now converging on a final one that will be married to the developing plans for the Special Collections building.”

All along the way, the project—which looks to a 2024 completion date—has sought extensive input and feedback as architectural plans solidify. “I remain gratified,” Wilkin said, “in seeing a clear plan emerge from such broad and inclusive discussions.”

For more information and continued updates, please visit the Building Project website at library.illinois.edu/library-building-project.



A Librarian and a Scholar, *continued from page 1*

at the Chicago Public Library, the [Chicago] Museum of Science and Industry, the University of Pittsburgh, and Baltimore's Enoch Pratt Free Library, Hayden "is a librarian through and through," Wilkin said. He believes she will advocate for issues that libraries stand for, "like intellectual freedom and the role that libraries can play."

And her past history is proof of that. Hayden strongly believes in libraries as community sites, and was well known for keeping the Baltimore libraries open as gathering places during city disturbances in 2015. She likes to refer to libraries as "opportunity centers," fiercely defended privacy rights as former head of the American Library Association, and remains passionately committed to equity of access to information.

That access remains a primary challenge, in Hayden's eyes, for today's libraries as they struggle to provide the technology that links people to information. The secondary challenge, she said, is offering the personnel to help users find the most accurate information they need—or, as Hayden paraphrased a T-shirt slogan, the librarians who function as the "original search engines."

The vigor and enthusiasm Hayden has brought to her career remain evident at the Library of Congress, where she works to improve access to its sprawling collection (171 million items) and broaden its exhibits and public programming initiatives. Hayden is the first Librarian of Congress with a Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/libnofcongress>), of which she said, "it's relatable, it's free, and it's an effective way to get the word out." Hayden uses it to announce events and invite people to join her on the "treasure hunt" of uncovering the vast holdings the Library of Congress embraces.

Hayden's first encounter with a library of grand scale took place in Springfield, where she summered as a child with her paternal grandparents, who introduced her to the Illinois State Library. From there, it was a short jaunt to Champaign, where Hayden's mother had grown up, to visit her maternal relatives. Some of them attended the Urbana campus; others worked in University food service or actively supported education by housing African American students denied housing on campus. "It was something that wasn't uncommon in the African American community—to view education as a vehicle for advancement," Hayden said. "And so we were just



Professor Allen Renear (School of Information Sciences), Carla Hayden (Library of Congress), and Dean John Wilkin (University Library)

examples of that, and it was replicated, and still is, in the African American community."

"That's why this University and that region mean so much to me personally," Hayden said, as she had come to view the campus as an engine of both academics and employment in her family history.

To receive the honorary degree this spring was "very humbling and rewarding," Hayden said. "The University of Illinois has had a strong commitment to excellent library service, in providing it to faculty and staff, and nurturing future librarians through the library school. That's why it's the premier institution in terms of supporting the importance of libraries."

Hayden once described the Library of Congress as "a place where you can touch history and imagine your future." For the woman who adored reading *Bright April* as a young girl, it appears May proved a stellar occasion as well.



Koeneman Starting New Chapter

After five years at the University Library, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Advancement Scott Koeneman has transitioned to a new role at Illinois within the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement (OV CIA). As of September 5, 2019, Scott has been leveraging his skills and advancement experience to assist with the development of OV CIA's university-based Principal Gifts office. He brings his experience with donors and prospective donors, along with his knowledge of campus, to this new position.

New Travel Grants Open Doors to Scholars

Funding invites researchers to use any library on campus

Have library grant, will travel. And conduct research. And make scholarly contacts. And learn about Illinois collections. And perhaps enjoy a career boost along the way.

It's all doable via the new, open-ended Library Travel Grants.

A useful concept? "Without a doubt," said João Júlio Gomes dos Santos Jr., an assistant professor of history at the Universidade Estadual do Ceará in Fortaleza, Brazil. "[It] was a life-changing opportunity in my research."

The grants provide funds for travel expenses, allowing researchers to access any of the Library's holdings. Says UI librarian Celestina Savonius-Wroth, who developed the project in collaboration with the Library Committee of the UI Department of History and others, "There aren't that many research library travel grants ... that basically

say, 'Come and use anything in our collection that would be relevant to your research.'"

This year, eight graduate or postdoc scholars

will benefit—four from the United States, and one each from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, and France. Two of the researchers also secured funding from other Library sources.

The enterprise increases scholarly collaboration—applicants are asked to identify an Illinois faculty member sponsor and to present their research on campus. The undertaking also helps promote international awareness of the Library's unique collections. In some cases, says Savonius-Wroth, who heads the History, Philosophy, and Newspaper Library, "we are it—we are the only place you can study this material." The travel funds offer a straightforward way to unite scholars with original sources.

The grants are especially appreciated by researchers at the dawn of their careers who are underfunded or lack resources within their own universities or nations. Heidi

Feldman, a historical ethnomusicologist and visiting scholar at the University of California, San Diego, was "thrilled" to learn of the Library offer. "As an independent scholar," she said, "my research is funded entirely by grants and fellowships." Feldman will use the Library's holdings on the 1968 Olympics to further investigate Afro-Peruvian folklorist Victoria Santa Cruz.

For Debra Lynne Katz, pursuing a doctorate in psychology through the University of West Georgia,

This year, eight scholars will use the new Library Travel Grants to peruse the collections at the Urbana-Champaign campus. Some background info:

Where They're From

Argentina
Brazil
California (2)
Canada
France
Missouri
North Carolina

What They'll Study

Afro-Peruvian folklorist Victoria Santa Cruz
Anarchists in Bolivia
Arabic poetic tradition of Mauritania
Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu
Extrasensory perception
Marcel Proust
Mathematical manuscripts from Mauritania
Mississippi River borderlands

What They'll Use

Avery Brundage Collection (Archives)
History, Philosophy, and Newspaper Library
Illinois History and Lincoln Collections
Kolb-Proust Archive for Research (Rare Book & Manuscript Library)
Latin American Studies Collection (International and Area Studies Library)
Merten J. Mandeville Collection in the Occult Sciences (Social Sciences, Health, and Education Library)
Charles C. Stewart Papers (Archives)



João Júlio Jr.



Heidi Feldman



Debra Katz



Celestina Savonius-Wroth

the open nature of the grant proved helpful. “Given the level of skepticism that exists in academia about my research topic [parapsychology],” Katz said, she worried her application would be dismissed in favor of more traditional disciplines. Katz will investigate the Merten J. Mandeville Collection in the Occult Sciences, which she was pleased to discover holds a copy of one of her own books.

“The idea of having contact with primary sources, books, and articles far from my limited research in a small and poor university” presented a stellar opportunity for dos Santos, who this summer researched the growth of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. He enjoyed access not only to vast resources but also the guidance of skilled UI librarians. “I think that I have collected materials for the next three to five years,” he said.

“[It] was a life-changing opportunity in my research.”

The grant proved a perfect fit for benefactress Jean Sheviak of East Greenbush, N.Y., who holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and a library degree from Northern Illinois University. A career academic librarian who’s been interested in libraries since she began working in one at age 10, Sheviak studied history as an undergraduate and firmly believes in the value of original sources.

“It’s a particularly neat idea,” she said of the grant, “in that it came from the people in the Library. And [the fact that] I can support that as an academic librarian, that makes it even better.” In addition to the monetary assistance, she suggests the grant supplies another much-needed source of support: an ego boost for scholars as they follow their passions.

And Sheviak is passionate about supporting the Library, which she sees as the “heart” of the University. “When you’re an ordinary person,” she said, “it’s nice to feel that I can make a difference, too.”

It’s a feeling reflected by Katz. “I personally see this travel grant as a debt that will need to be repaid,” she said, “not with money, but through action and passing on the gift to others in some way.”

Upcoming Events

Rare Book & Manuscript Library Events

All events in RBML, 346 Main Library, unless otherwise noted.



The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Conservation Treatments and Decision Making Through the Ages Exhibition

September 27–December 20

Of Jealousy, Women Warriors, & Spin-offs: Secondo Tarentino’s Bradamante Gelosa

October 24, 3:00–5:00 p.m.

Dads Weekend Open House

November 1, 3:00–5:00 p.m.

Frederic Goudy & H.G. Wells: The Time Traveler’s Typeface

November 15, 3:00–5:00 p.m.

Quill & Ink Workshop and Holiday Party

December 12, 3:00–5:00 p.m.

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

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THE LIBRARY IS SOCIAL

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

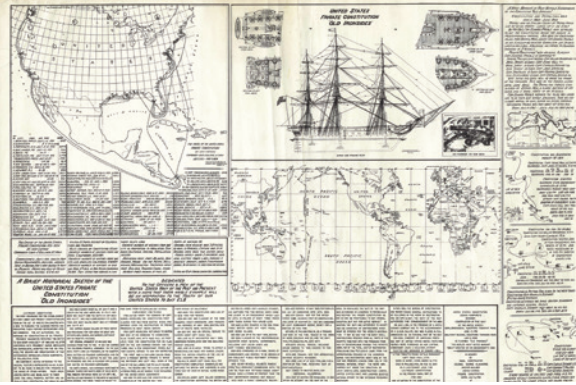
 facebook.com/universitylibrary

 instagram.com/uillinoislibrary

 twitter.com/IllinoisLibrary

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

Library Is Looking For



\$495 for United States Frigate Constitution “Old Ironsides,” a broadside including drawings of the beloved ship, which was launched in 1797 and remains the oldest commissioned naval vessel still afloat worldwide. Published by Edward L. Bell in 1934, this print features two maps—one showing the ship’s major engagements around the globe, the other her ports of call in North America after massive reconstruction led to a 1931 recommissioning. Although Illinois is nearly landlocked, the **Map Library** hopes you believe in the importance of naval history!

\$595 for a pair of maps illustrating armed services training in Illinois. Humorously highlighting the state’s role in these efforts are two items sought by the **Map Library: Cartograph of Camp Grant, Ill.** (MacKechnie, 1941), showing the southern Rockford

site which served the U.S. Army, the Illinois National Guard, and the Civilian Conservation Corps between 1917 and 1946; and **Cartoon Map of the U.S. Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, IL** (Gadbois, 1949).

Since its dedication in 1911, the Great Lakes facility has been used nearly continuously for such work, including training the Navy’s first African-American servicemen during World War II, as well as “The Five Fighting Sullivans.”



\$750 for Railroad Map of Illinois: Nine Hundred Thousand Acres of Land for Sale by the Illinois Central Railroad Company, an item that served to entice viewers to buy land—boldly marked on the document in pink—along the trail of the tracks; the sales money was then used to help repay ICR investors. Published

by Colton in 1861, just a decade after the ICR was incorporated as the first land-grant railroad in the United States, this map would complement both the **Map Library** and the **Illinois History and Lincoln Collections**, as Lincoln served as an ICR attorney before ascending to the presidency.



Cartoon Map of the U.S. Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, IL



Cartograph of Camp Grant, Ill.

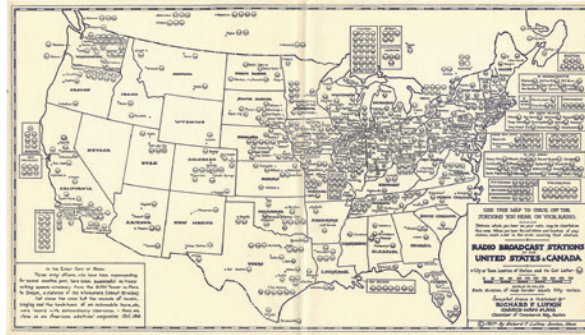
Small Press Fest

\$750 to support the second annual Small Press Fest!, a celebration of small presses and self-publishing. Organized through the **Research and Information Services Unit**,

the gathering needs help defraying costs for the occasion, such as venue-related expenses, printing of programs, and travel and lodging for speakers. Set for spring 2020, the event will showcase zines, comics, and more.

A listing of items in need is located online at library.illinois.edu/friends/library-is-looking-for

\$825 for a pair of maps illustrating early radio broadcasting in the United States. Help the **Map Library** celebrate the centenary of radio broadcasting! The first item—**Radio Map of the United States** (Rand McNally for Sage-Allen & Co.)—was published in 1923, just four years after commercial radio began broadcasting in America and expanded quickly into hundreds of stations across the continent. The double-sided sheet includes all station locations and call signs in the U.S., Canada, Cuba, and Puerto Rico. **Radio Broadcast Stations of the United States & Canada** (Lufkin), with locations and call letters of American stations in 1927, adds a nice bonus: Printed circles allow listeners to mark off stations they managed to hear, thus charting the progress of their hobby.



Radio Broadcast Stations of the United States & Canada

\$3,000 in matching funds for study carrels featuring banquette seating and a work surface for books or laptops. This item would improve study space in the **History, Philosophy, and Newspaper Library**.

The following donor has adopted the following item previously listed in *Friendscript*:

Walter L. Earley for *The United States from the Latest Authorities for Hayward's Gazetteer* (Map Library)



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

Please mail this form with your gift to:
 University of Illinois
 Foundation
 P.O. Box 3429
 Champaign, IL 61826-9916

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



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

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

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

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Address _____

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Company name _____

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



To make a gift with your credit card, please visit **go.library.illinois.edu/gift**

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Upcoming Events, *continued from page 5*

Lunchtime Player Piano Mini-Concerts

The Music and Performing Arts Library will be hosting lunchtime player piano mini-concerts on the first Fridays of the month during the fall semester.

- ◆ October 4, November 1, December 6, noon–1:00 p.m.
- ◆ Music and Performing Arts Library, 1300 Music Building, 1114 W. Nevada Street, Urbana

Homecoming Parade Watch

Please join us in the Library Friends tent in the SW corner of the Main Library parking lot (E3) for a fantastic view of this year's parade entries—including the Marching Illini—as they turn the corner at Sixth and Gregory, right by the Main Library. Entertainment and refreshments will be available.

- ◆ October 18, 5:30 p.m. (weather permitting)
- ◆ Main Library's west parking lot (Sixth and Gregory)
- ◆ RSVP to friends@library.illinois.edu or (217) 333-5682

#HerServiceUIUC: Women in the Military Exhibit

This exhibit will highlight the history of women in the military with a particular focus on women veterans who are alumna of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The exhibit also encourages women alumna who are veterans to share their services stories using the hashtag #HerServiceUIUC.

- ◆ November 1–29
- ◆ First Floor Main Hallway, Main Library

Preserving Our Heritage: Illinois, Sousa, and the Birth of School Bands

Scott Schwartz (of the Sousa Archives and Center for American Music) and Barry Houser (of the Marching Illini) will present on the topic, which will feature performances on historic and modern instruments.

- ◆ November 12
- ◆ Alice Campbell Alumni Center, 601 S. Lincoln Avenue, Urbana
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/friends for more information forthcoming



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