

# EX LIBRIS

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES MAGAZINE · FALL 2020



# A Letter from the Dean



While several great things happened during the 2019-20 academic year, I think what will stand out most for everyone is how spring semester unfolded due to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

In the fall of 2019, we opened another spectacular interdisciplinary exhibit in the Downtown Campus Library called Appalachian Futures that examined many facets of our life and culture, learning from the past to envision a new future. We ramped up our Research Commons workshops, continued to grow our Research Repository, met with faculty senate to discuss open access publishing, awarded the Dean of Libraries Art prize to two excellent student works, and awarded and hosted a presentation by the winner of the faculty exhibit award.

It's funny now how so much of that accomplishment pales considering the new challenges we face under COVID. On March 19, we shuttered the doors of all our library buildings as the state entered a "stay at home" order and our classes went online. While so much of the campus did an amazing pivot to shift to a new remote reality, the Libraries were very much a part of that.

Our staff retreated to their homes, but continued to provide reference assistance, purchase materials, troubleshoot access and connection issues, track our holdings, process collections and even provide document delivery. Our Art in the Libraries Program moved online with weekly webinars related to our exhibits. With a small core of staff in our buildings we were able to mail out books from our shelves needed by students and faculty, scan items for emailing out and rush-purchase items that could no longer be borrowed because of other libraries being shuttered nationally. It was a testament to the continued digital nature of library work that so much could be accomplished away from our facilities!

And while I am happy to celebrate that great accomplishment, I do not want to lose track of the fact that much was also lost. We had to cancel a Sherlock Holmes Symposium that was slated to take place in the Downtown Campus Library. Our Appalachian Futures exhibit was no longer accessible. Our inviting and inspiring study spaces with high-speed internet access were not available to students. The opportunity for a faculty member to meet a colleague for coffee and then pick up a book they needed was lost.

COVID has taught us that yes, libraries are digital and yes, libraries can deliver information and even educational opportunity even under difficult circumstances. But also, libraries are social, and their environments are inspirational. That is not a piece that can be replicated online.

Karen Diaz  
Dean of Libraries

# EX LIBRIS

Fall 2020

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ON THE COVER:  
Dayanita Ramesh designed this artwork as  
part of the Libraries' "Undeclared" exhibit.  
Read more about the exhibit on page 12.



The WVU Board of Governors is the governing body of WVU. The Higher Education Policy Commission in West Virginia is responsible for developing, establishing and overseeing the implementation of a public policy agenda for the state's four-year colleges and universities.

WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer — Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran.

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## Snapshot

► A blooming crabapple tree stands next to the Evansdale Library.





# KEEPING EVERYTHING MOVING FORWARD

THE LIBRARIES HELPED THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY CONTINUE THEIR ACADEMIC JOURNEY AND RESEARCH PURSUITS DURING THE PANDEMIC.

**STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF WILL PROBABLY LONG REMEMBER 2020 AS THE TIME COVID-19 FORCED EVERYONE TO LEAVE CAMPUS AT THE START OF SPRING BREAK AND QUARANTINE THEMSELVES AT HOME UNTIL LATE SUMMER.**

For West Virginia University Libraries, the situation was an unexpected field test of its resources, software and services and the expertise and knowledge of librarians and staff. The Libraries helped the University community continue their academic journey and research pursuits during the pandemic that closed campus by staying focused on its mission of supporting WVU's academic and research goals.

"We are grateful for the critical role that WVU librarians and library staff maintained during such a disruptive time," Provost Maryanne Reed said. "They worked hard to ensure students and faculty had continuous access to materials and resources necessary for their academic and research pursuits."

Communication channels are essential to serving library users. Most students and faculty know that library assistance is only a few clicks away. They can text their questions to a librarian, chat online or send an email.

"WVU librarians are wonderful, and during this astonishingly stressful semester, they have been amazing," said Marilyn Francus, an English professor in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences.

She had difficulty getting on the Eighteenth Century Collections Online database, which is central to her research. She submitted a query through the online portal and received



a response and solution to her problem from Librarian Beth Toren within 24 hours.

Interlibrary Loan came to the rescue when she needed to review multiple articles before committing to a request to write an essay for a collection for Cambridge University Press.

And, sometimes, she didn't even have to ask. Knowing Francus' interests, Rare Books Curator Stewart Plein emailed her information about reading at home in the eighteenth century and an online opportunity to discuss archive pedagogy.

She also appreciates Humanities Librarian Lynne Stahl for posting regularly about library support and e-resources — including a eight-page pdf of humanities resources, which now resides on her desktop.

"To say that this is exemplary during a pandemic is putting it mildly. I hope that our librarians know how much they are appreciated," Francus said.

During the spring semester and summer session, faculty also used email and chat services for questions and requests for assistance in developing summer courses, converting an in-person course to online and uploading videos to be viewed by students. It often just involved reassuring them that librarians and staff had their needs in mind.

"I got a sinking feeling in my stomach that I had missed a ton of my books' due dates and totaled up tons of dollars in fines," a



▲ Averie Haines, a mechanical engineering freshman, reviews class at the Downtown Campus Library as students return to campus for the first day of classes on August 26.

student wrote in an email. "Thank you for issuing that policy about fees being waived in the Library during these tough times. I'm sure that countless people throughout WVU who borrowed books and got distracted by the pandemic like I did greatly appreciate this leniency right now."

Every day throughout the spring and summer students used chat or email to ask librarians for help in identifying databases to research their topic, citing resources in papers, requesting articles and other materials and solving software problems.

Although not the same as in-person interaction, the internet allowed for some virtual face-to-face sessions.

Librarian Alyssa Wright met on Zoom with an Honors student who is participating in the Center for Service and Learning Social Action Clinic. She helped the student organize her thoughts about what could be done, identify potential nonprofit partners and create a list of alternatives in the area for other possible partnerships.

Another librarian responded to an email query by setting up a Google Meet (available in MIX) with the student. She was able to share her screen to demonstrate use of library resources and instruct the student, as well as suggest best strategies for completing research.

A local nonprofit officer seeking sources of foundation funding met with a librarian on Zoom to discuss a proposed project and best ways to use the currently available Foundation Directory Essential tool to identify best potential funders. The Zoom meeting was a follow-up to several email exchanges.

**EXHIBIT AND EVENTS**

The pandemic also changed the way the Libraries presented its events and exhibits to the public.

In the spring, the Libraries and the WVU Humanities Center launched the Local to Global Film Series. Using Kanopy, the Libraries' streaming film database, people logged on at home and watched the selected movie along with others. The digital gatherings took place twice a month and each concluded with a group discussion.

Another offering was the Art in the Libraries Virtual Program Series organized by Exhibits Coordinator Sally Brown. The series consisted of regularly scheduled 15-minute presentations from artists and collectors from the Libraries'

exhibits shared on Zoom.

Among the presentations, Women's and Gender Studies Instructor Charlotte Hoelke spoke on "Queering the Libraries: Lee Greer Brewster in the WVU Libraries"; WVU Health Sciences Pathology Program Assistant Beth Ann McCormick delivered a talk titled "Crafting and Art: Same or Different?" and artist/curator/poet Kari Gunter-Seymour addressed the Women of Appalachia Art Project.

Disruptions continued through the summer and into the fall. Read about the West Virginia Day digital program on page 6 and the online launch of the Undeclared exhibit on page 12. ♡

**THREE LIBRARIANS RECEIVE COVID-19 GRANTS**

The WVU Humanities Center awarded three WVU librarians "Life in the Time of COVID-19" grants to research projects that address the pandemic from a humanistic perspective.

Funded by the WVU Humanities Center through a WVU endowment from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, all of the projects offer a voice to those living in smaller towns and rural areas, as well as address what might otherwise be substantial gaps in our understanding of life in the time of COVID-19 in the Appalachian region.

"Numbers and statistics are essential as society navigates this pandemic, but they can also distance us from the individual human toll. They alone do not tell the whole story of the COVID-19

pandemic," said Interim Director, Rhonda Reymond. "The humanities are particularly suited to bring nuanced understandings to complex situations like pandemics. They examine multilayered facets of human experiences, beliefs and values at play within social and cultural systems of the past and present. They can even help us envision possible futures."

Humanities Librarian Lynne Stahl will teach a course using information literacy principles and other theoretical approaches that ask students to investigate how pandemic-related information is produced, circulated and discussed. The students will also explore how this cycle reflects, exposes and perpetuates existing social inequalities related to race, gender, class, ability and more.

To bring experiences of the past to the present for comparison and interpretation, Nicholas Gardner, staff librarian at WVU Potomac, will create a digitized historic newspaper collection from four counties in the Potomac Highlands. These newly accessible resources will provide K-16 educators, historians and public researchers information about the 1918-1920 "Spanish" flu pandemic, which was well-documented in this area of the state.

The West Virginia and Regional History Center in the WVU Libraries is collecting WVU community COVID-19 stories to capture and preserve the impact of the pandemic on WVU faculty, staff and students on all campuses. WVRHC Assistant Director Lori Hostuttler will use the grant to expedite the process of collecting, digitizing and preserving materials for the WVRHC to facilitate local community and researcher access.

The WVU Humanities Center is also working with the WVHRC a and Regional History Center to document humanities research focused on life in the time of COVID-19. Each project lead has outlined the academic and/or public outcomes of the work, and several of the grantees will make their work public and available for posterity by archiving it as part of the Center's partnership with the Libraries' WVU Community COVID-19 Stories Project.

Other recipients included Eve Faulkes, professor of graphic design, School of Art and Design; Jamie Shinn, assistant professor of Geography, Department of Geology and Geography; Rachel Stein, associate professor and director of graduate studies in sociology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology; and Jennifer Thornton, teaching assistant professor, Department of History.

The pandemic has also had a profound impact on museums and historic sites in West Virginia. Thornton and her team will conduct a statewide study that will help identify the needs and challenges encountered during times of crisis by the predominantly small, rural, public-facing humanities and cultural institutions typical in the Appalachian region.

"All of the recipients' projects ask questions such as, 'whose stories are told or not, who gets to tell them, how are they told, who collects them, how are they preserved, how can they be accessed and who has access to them,'" Reymond added. "This is vital humanities work that helps us make sense of life during the pandemic in an area of the country that is often mythologized, imagined or spoken for or about by others." ♡



# Achieving Suffrage

One hundred years ago, West Virginia legislators met at the State Capitol in Charleston to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which extended voting rights to women.



▲ Women's Suffrage League, WVU, ca 1920.

WRITTEN BY ANNE EFFLAND, RETIRED HISTORIAN AND ECONOMIST WITH USDA

*I am grateful to John Cuthbert and WVU Libraries for the invitation to return to my WVU and women's history roots and have the chance to highlight West Virginia's place in the fight for women's suffrage. I worked as a manuscripts processor in the WVRHC from 1979 to 1983, alongside John, while also pursuing a Master's of Arts in history. Supported by a group of women who were bringing the field of Women's Studies to WVU, I eventually launched the research that forms the basis of my recent West Virginia Day presentation.*

***The new state of West Virginia saw an early effort to give women the vote. Samuel Young, a state senator from Pocahontas County, twice introduced resolutions for women's suffrage, in 1867 and 1869. While the senate took no action in 1867, in 1869 the resolution lost by a vote of only 12-8, surprisingly close for the time.***

After those early resolutions, the West Virginia suffrage movement remained dormant until 1895, when an organizing effort by the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) succeeded in forming nine suffrage clubs around the state (in Wheeling, Benwood, Wellsburg, New Cumberland, New Manchester, Clarksburg, Grafton, Fairmont and Mannington), who held the first-ever state women's suffrage convention in Grafton.

By 1901, only the Fairmont club survived, but the movement saw energy and political support grow over the following decade. New West Virginia Equal Suffrage Association (WVESA) clubs had formed in Charleston in 1912, Morgantown in 1913, Parkersburg in 1914 and Huntington in 1915, and they provided

a new source of energy and geographic reach for the West Virginia movement.

In 1915, Governor Henry Hatfield called on the State Legislature to support a referendum on women's suffrage; a resolution in favor passed both chambers within nine days.

According to the Wheeling Intelligencer, "the wide margin by which the resolution passed both houses ... surprised even the most ardent supporters of the measure."

But support for the referendum did not necessarily translate into support for women's suffrage. Many legislators made clear that their only purpose was to get the question before the voters.

Still, supporters held out high hopes — the majority of the state's newspaper editors supported the referendum; the West Virginia Labor Federation and the Ohio Valley Trades and Labor Assembly endorsed women's suffrage; a "Flying Squadron" of prominent men and women — attorneys, judges, politicians, physicians, religious leaders — spoke at 30 different locations during the campaign, often paired with nationally known speakers sponsored by NAWSA.



▲ Lenna Lowe Yost, West Virginia Equal Suffrage Association leader.

NAWSA also employed 28 paid organizers and sent experienced staff members to help the WVESA manage the campaign.

Election day brought a stunning defeat, however. More than 70 percent of voters opposed women's suffrage and only two of 55 counties returned majorities in favor of suffrage — Hancock and Brooke.

Some national leaders blamed "the liquor interests," consistent

opponents of women's suffrage in the face of strong women's leadership in the temperance movement. But West Virginia voters had already approved prohibition by a large majority.

More likely, the limited reach of pro-suffrage organizing before the 1915 campaign began, coupled with the strong anti-suffrage activism galvanized by the referendum threat, combined to explain the loss.

Irene Drukker Broh, founder of the new Huntington suffrage club in 1915 and daughter of an Ohio suffragist who had been a friend of Susan B. Anthony, observed "They didn't know what suffrage was in West Virginia. In 1915 we would go around and





▲ Ada Enid Haldeman Ford, a state leader in the Women's Suffrage Movement.

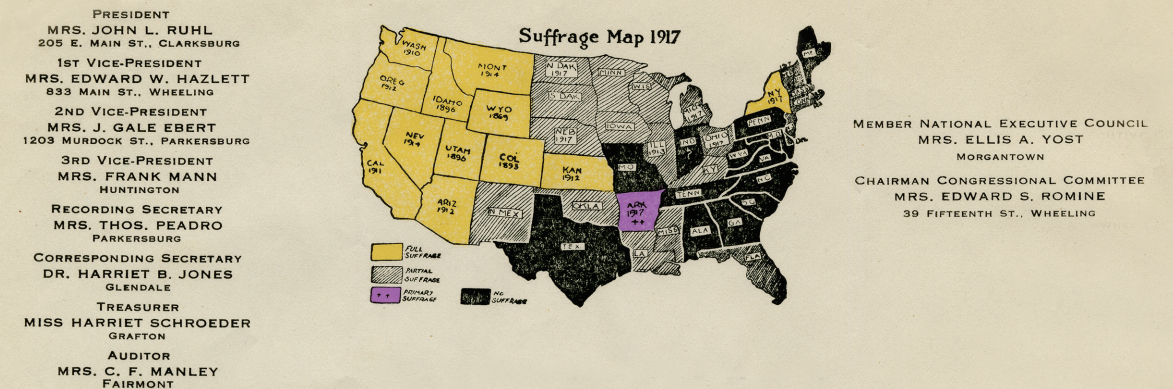
talk about voting for women and people thought we were cranks and crazies.”

Madeleine Breckenridge, a Kentucky suffrage leader who spoke in several locations in West Virginia in 1915, also noted in a letter to Cora Ebert, a WVESA leader in Parkersburg, "I am very hopeful of your state's going right; my only fear is that the women generally won't wake up and go to work in time." Breckenridge added that "...in most communities a very small group of women are carrying the whole burden."

Eléonore Raoul, a young Atlanta, Georgia, paid organizer who worked in the Northern Panhandle noted, "There is no getting around the fact that the state was woefully unprepared for a campaign ..."

State politicians supporting women's suffrage at the 1915 WVESA convention had recommended special attention to the rural districts in the state, where they expected organizers would find the greatest opposition to women's suffrage.

## West Virginia Equal Suffrage Association



▲ Promotional material for women's suffrage movement in West Virginia.

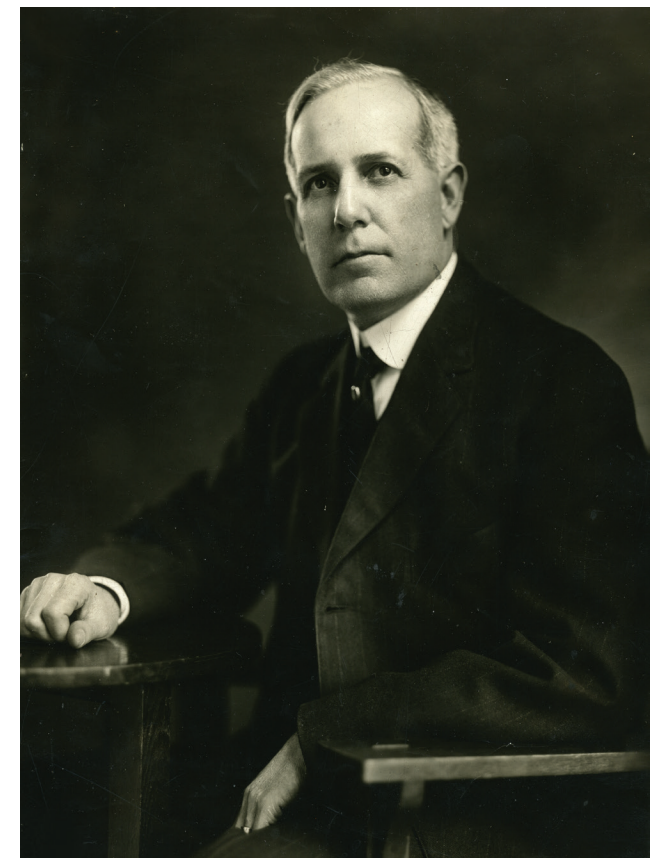
But the highest and lowest concentrations of votes for women followed no clear regional pattern, some of both occurring in the high mountain counties, others in the areas along the eastern border, and still others in the Northern Panhandle and Ohio Valley.

While some rural areas produced the predicted large majorities against women's suffrage, those that did not may have been home to small towns that served as educational and business centers for more remote hinterlands, with colleges and professional populations akin to more urban places, despite their low populations and lack of industrial development. These areas may have helped to keep the majorities against suffrage lower than might be expected.

While we'll need more local research to confirm this possibility — which happily is underway in some places across the state during this centennial year — Eléonore Raoul's experiences organizing in the rural Northern Panhandle and briefly in Preston County lend some weight to the need for such a reconsideration.

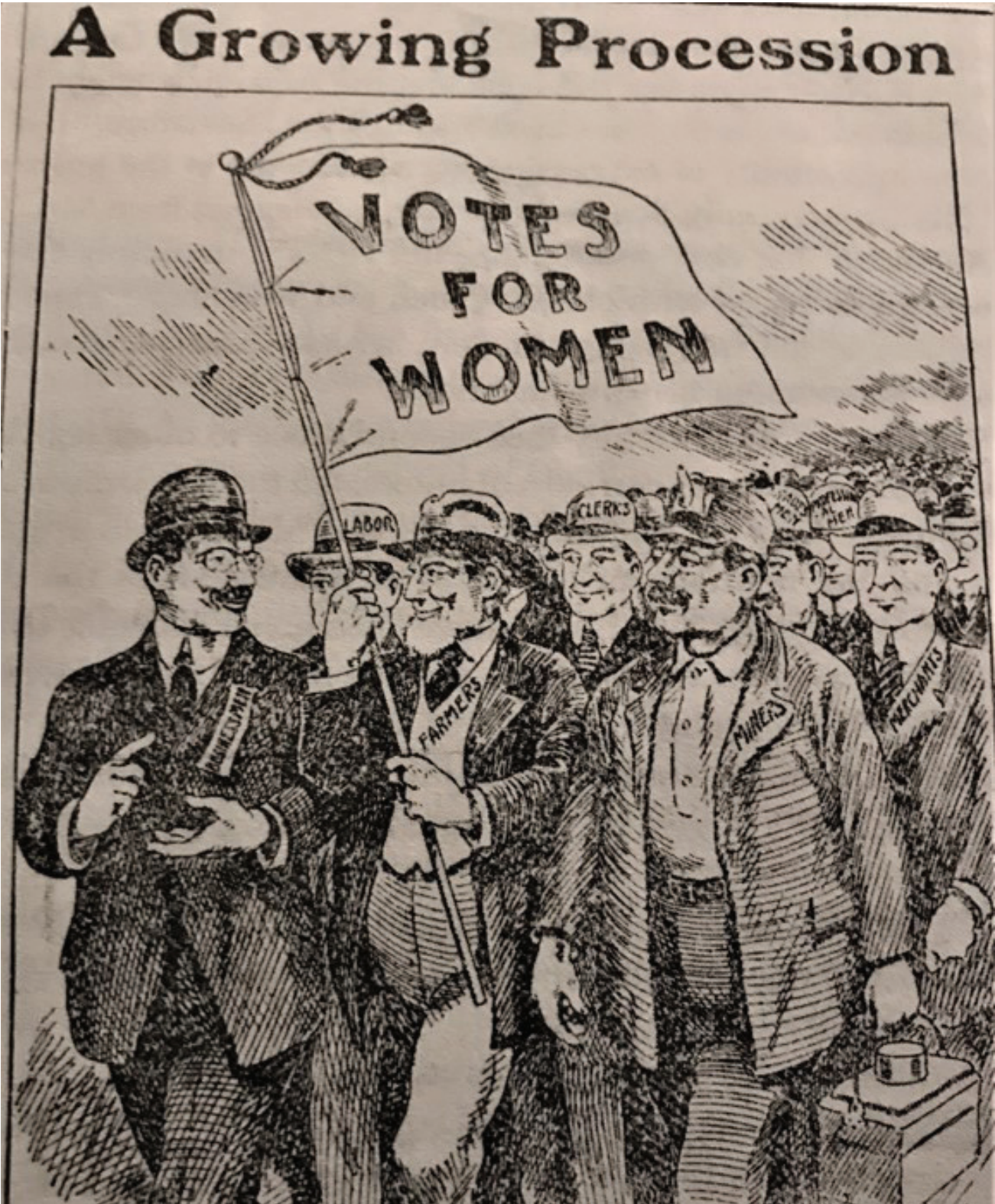
On a rural organizing trip in Preston County, she described her sense of hope that farmers might well be persuaded to support woman suffrage:

“To-day we are hanging around in this little town of some 300 souls waiting for the mail to go out to a place ten miles off which is little more than a cross roads, and where we will speak tonight. With the mail, as you know, is the cheapest way to travel. The next we will join the mail man again and go a little further into the back woods – We are hard after the farmers



▲ Governor John Jacob Cornwell.





▲ Pro-suffrage advertisement, Grafton Daily Sentinel, October 31, 1916.

votes and think we will get them in this county — “Raoul described another rural success in Wetzel County, this one more entertaining! “... alas, I had not reckoned upon the natives calling a mountain a hill & before long I discovered the “hill” was a mile long & such a road as you could not possibly picture, ditches, holes, stones or rather, bolders etc. ... I had noticed when I left the village that there seemed to be quite a little admiration manifest when I announced I was going and I was beginning to discern why.

Even if I could turn back I would have hesitated to do so because they would surely (with their usual logic) have said I should not vote whereas if I made it I knew it would be a feather in my cap — Afterwards I learned that I had an audience at the bottom & one old man was waving his hands & shouting, ‘If she makes it I sure will vote for her.’ ... My only comfort for the trip was that I knew I had clinched for good some votes – the country side knew I was no city parasite”

Whatever the reasons, however, West Virginia suffragists returned to the fight with renewed energy when the national amendment passed in May 1919 and began its progress through the states for ratification. Despite the recent referendum vote, expectations were high for an easy ratification vote in the West Virginia legislature — the entire West Virginia House and Senate delegations had voted in favor. But the amendment passed Congress while the West Virginia Legislature was not in session, and Governor Cornwell, a proponent of women's suffrage, feared that the costs of calling a special session would weigh against ratification. Early in 1920, though, the governor convened a special session for a needed tax measure, at which both houses made ratification the first order of business.

The House of Delegates voted in favor 47-40 within the first week, but the Senate became locked in a 14-14 tie. Suffrage supporters prevailed on Senator Jesse Bloch to make a three-day cross-country dash to vote in favor and make West Virginia the 34th state to ratify the 19th amendment.

While West Virginia's ratification of the 19th amendment has not attracted much attention in scholarly analysis of the woman's suffrage movement, at the time it meant a great deal to national suffrage leaders. With no certainty that the requisite number

### MR. VOTER!

**REMEMBER** That woman suffrage has produced no improvement in social conditions; no laws to regulate work; no child labor; no improved corporation legislation; no prison reforms; no health reforms; no purification in politics; no increase in wages in **any of the states that have granted it** that has not been equalled or surpassed in MAN SUFFRAGE States.

**REMEMBER** That woman suffrage is only an experiment and we cannot afford to undertake such an experiment under present conditions.

**REMEMBER** That woman suffrage means suffrage for **every** woman and not only for your own female relatives, friends and acquaintances.

**REMEMBER** That the **average** woman is no better than the average man.

**REMEMBER** That every Socialist and every Feminist is a Woman Suffragist, and

**REMEMBER** That the great majority of women do not want the ballot thrust upon them by the fanatical minority!

---

**Vote AGAINST Woman Suffrage**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 1916**

▲ Anti-suffrage advertisement.

of states would ratify, particularly in time for the 1920 elections, the win in West Virginia, which had so recently rejected state suffrage, gave the movement confidence that their goal could be reached.

In the telegram NAWSA President Carrie Chapman Catt sent to WVESA leader Lenna Lowe Yost after the ratification vote, its importance is clear: “Suffrage is won. The words are simple but thrill as few words can do. The people who have followed the course of woman's suffrage from outside with indifference or small understanding of what has been at stake will have no comprehension of the real message which the West Virginia victory carries to women. To us it means that the nation is won, that the 70-year struggle is over, that the women are enfranchised American women.” ♡





◀ Left: Artwork by Kari Gunter-Seymour. Below: Artwork by Dara Herman Zierlein and Pauline Hudel Smith, respectively.

**An online version of the “Undeclared: Canvas(s)ing the Politics on Voter Suppression Since Women’s Suffrage” exhibit debuted in August, with the actual installation opening at the Downtown Campus Library in spring 2021.**

The exhibition marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (granting women the right to vote) and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (enforcing voting rights for racial minorities). Complementing the print exhibit, several webinars of topics surrounding voting are in the plans.

As part of the opening webinar reception, print exhibit designer and College of Creative Arts Graphic Design Professor Eve Faulkes spoke on social justice graphic design theory.

“Undeclared,” the Libraries’ third large collaborative exhibition, brings together several on- and off-campus partners. An advisory committee consisting of regional scholars, creatives and professionals collaborated to contribute the educational content and jury the artwork organized in themes: Information/Disinformation; Access/Intimidation; Legislation/Legal Questions; Voter Fraud; and Advocacy/Action.

Also, a call for artwork went out last fall, and around 100 submissions were made from artists and designers nationwide. The artists used the template of the campaign button as an individual canvas and responded to these themes.

A series of virtual programs, in collaboration with West Virginia Women Vote of Morgantown (an informal coalition of area organizations initiating

projects around the suffrage centennial), will continue through the fall semester, including presentations by West Virginia storyteller Ilene Evans performing as suffragist Coralie Franklin Cook; Eleanor Smeal, co-founder of Feminist Majority Foundation, a former president of the National Organization for Women and publisher of Ms. Magazine; Barbara Evans Fleischauer, member of the West Virginia House; and Atiba Ellis, Professor of Law at Marquette University Law School on democracy, voting and race.

Also, the online exhibit includes articles by the exhibit expert committee and an educational resource guide with curriculum ideas for faculty and artwork.

The Downtown Campus Library will host the print installation from January through August 2021. This exhibit is generously supported by grants from the West Virginia Humanities Council, the WVU Community Engagement Grant, the WVU Humanities Center Collaborative Grant, and partners WVU Reed College of Media; WVU College of Creative Arts; WVU Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; WVU Council for Women’s Concerns; and MPB Print and Sign Superstore, which will be completing the installation. Other supporters include Adventure WV and Arts Monongahela.

The exhibit will become a digital exhibit living on the WVU Libraries’ exhibits website, [exhibits.lib.wvu.edu/gallery\\_undefeated](https://exhibits.lib.wvu.edu/gallery_undefeated), and archived on the Research Repository @WVU, [researchrepository.wvu.edu](https://researchrepository.wvu.edu). ♡







▲ Banner depicting folklore cryptids of West Virginia, including the Mothman, Sasquatch and others, designed by Liz Pavlovic.



▲ This section of the exhibit highlights work from the West Virginia Humanities Council, Arthurdale Heritage and more, connecting a traditional past to new traditions yet to be forged.

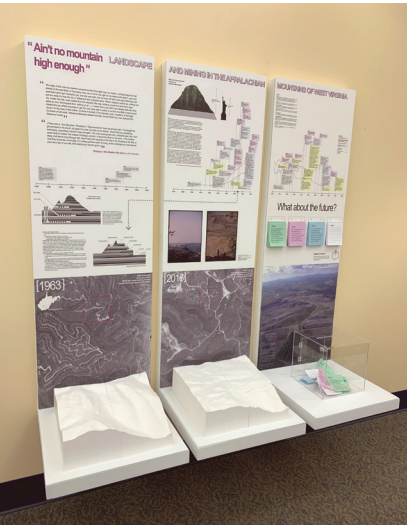
# EXHIBIT EXPLORES APPALACHIA'S FUTURE

Throughout the 2020 academic year, the Downtown Campus Library served as the gathering place to discuss and speculate on the future of Appalachia.

Appalachian Futures was the Art in the Libraries' second annual collaborative, multidisciplinary project advancing important conversations in the region. The exhibit addressed the dominant contemporary narratives about Appalachia in a new way — how the people of Appalachia have worked and will work to rewrite their own narrative and transcend limiting definitions of what it means to be Appalachian.

Synthesizing humanities research, art and civic action, the exhibit invites viewers to explore the often overlooked communities of Indigenous Appalachia, "Afrilachian" (African American in Appalachia) and queer Appalachia. Appalachian Futures contributors included 50 WVU and regional scholars, community groups and artists. The print installation spanned the library's main floor, covered the walls of the main stairwell and filled the Atrium with artwork and displays on topics from Growth of Diverse Populations to Science, Education

and Industry; to the Future of Appalachian Traditions; Speculative Futures; and Class Projects, art and philosophical questions around our area's future. The opening exhibition in September 2019 honored the contributors with live traditional Appalachian music from Music History Professor Travis Stimeling and a video game interactivity with Game Design Professor Jeffrey Moser,



▲ This exhibit explores the history of mountaintop removal in West Virginia.

of his students' games inspired by West Virginia. The opening also included a complementary exhibition including original fine art from twelve regional artists on the theme of Appalachian Futures on the main floor in a coinciding room. In March, Women of Appalachian Art Project Curator Kari Gunter-Seymour curated an invitational exhibit of ten women artists' work, which is now also available online. Though the COVID crisis shortened the print exhibition, the complete exhibit designs by Joseph Galbreath are documented on the Research Repository @WVU, [researchrepository.wvu.edu/appalfutures-exhibit](https://researchrepository.wvu.edu/appalfutures-exhibit). In addition, the exhibition will still travel to partner sites including Marshall University Libraries, Appalachian State University Libraries, and the West Virginia Library Commission, all of whom helped underwrite this enormous project, along with a grant from the WVU Humanities Center, WVU Reed College of Media, Arts Monongahela, First United Bank and Trust, and individual donor Catherine Wilson Jones. ♡



THE WEATHER

Warm and Cloudy.

Everybody Reads the West Virginian.

In Every Sense of the Word==THE HOME PAPER

# The Fairmont West Virginian.

"Charity Begins at Home."

HOW MUCH  
FOR RELIEF?

It's Necessity At Our Door.

VOLUME IV.

FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1907.

NUMBER 198.

# THE FATAL HILL IS GIVING UP ITS DEAD

## REPORT THAT NO. 8. MINE WAS ON FIRE FALSE

(BY JOSEPH LEHMAN.)

The great anxiety of all parties concerned caused by the report that a fire was raging in mine No. 8 has been abated by the searching parties who declare that there was no fire started last night. The search was given up for awhile but was resumed this morning and at three o'clock four bodies were taken out of mine No. 8 and No. 6 yielded up three more bodies of its entombed dead. The work is progressing as fast as it is possible. The mines are in a terrible state of chaos and the work must necessarily be slow. The search parties have been working since last night. The search parties have been working since last night. Thus far 52 bodies have been recovered and 13 have been identified. The grief stricken women who have recovered from their dazed condition are almost frantic but the relief that is coming to them is causing them to be more rational. There is no stone left unturned in the relief work. All the organizations in the city are taking steps to institute relief measures. Many are in working order now and vigorously prosecuting the cause of charity for the distressed sufferers.

## THE COAL COMPANY IS DOING EVERYTHING IT CAN FOR BOTH THE LIVING AND DEAD

## LIST OF THE DEAD SO FAR RECOVERED AND IDENTIFIED

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1.—CHARLES B. HONAKER, single, age 21, from No. 8; identified by father; body removed to home in Monongah; burial Sunday.                | 23.—JAKE KORES, taken from No. 8, Monongah; identified by J. M. Jacobs. |
| 2.—FRED COOPER, leaves wife and one child; home in Fairmont. Identified by father-in-law; age 23.  | 24.—JOHN VEVIDETTA, age 20, East Monongah.                              |
| 3.—ANTONI UDORVIC, single; home at Monongah. Identified by a woman; age 40.  | 25.—Unidentified.   |
| 4.—CARMON ZURIAL, leaves wife and one child; home in Fairmont. Identified by father-in-law; age 23.                                      | 26.—Unidentified.   |
| 5.—Unidentified.   | 27.—Unidentified.   |
| 6.—Unidentified.   | 28.—JOE TOTH, from No. 8; East Monongah; identified by J. M. Jacobs.    |
| 7.—Unidentified.   | 29.—Unidentified.   |
| 8.—LAWRENCE HINEMAN, age 21, single; home in West Monongah. Identified by his father; body taken home and buried at 1:30 o'clock Sunday. | 30.—Unidentified.   |
| 9.—NICK COLCHERI, aged 30, single; home in West Monongah. Identified by three brothers.  | 31.—Unidentified.   |
| 10.—Unidentified.  | 32.—Unidentified.   |
| 11.—Unidentified.  | 33.—Unidentified.   |
| 12.—Unidentified.  | 34.—Unidentified.   |
| 13.—Unidentified.  | 35.—Unidentified.   |
| 14.—Unidentified.  | 36.—Unidentified.   |
| 15.—Unidentified.  | 37.—Unidentified.   |
| 16.—Unidentified.  | 38.—Unidentified.   |
| 17.—Unidentified.  | 39.—Unidentified.   |
| 18.—Unidentified.  | 40.—Unidentified.   |
| 19.—Unidentified.  | 41.—Unidentified.   |
| 20.—Unidentified.  | 42.—Unidentified.   |
| 21.—Unidentified.  | 43.—Unidentified.   |
| 22.—Unidentified.  | 44.—Unidentified.   |

WVRHC RECEIVES FIFTH NEH GRANT

TO DIGITIZE HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

WRITTEN BY MONTE MAXWELL



[illegible]

THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES' WEST VIRGINIA AND REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER HAS RECEIVED A \$201,917 GRANT — ITS FIFTH FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH) — TO CONTINUE DIGITIZING NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN WEST VIRGINIA FROM 1790 TO 1923.

The award is part of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a collaboration between the NEH and the Library of Congress to enlist libraries and institutions from around the country to create a digital database of historical United States newspapers. This grant brings the NEH's total funding of the WVRHC's efforts to \$968,000.

"We are honored that the NEH recognizes the tremendous value of the historical newspapers archived in the WVRHC," WVRHC Director John Cuthbert said. "Their support speaks volumes to the instrumental roles the Mountain State and its citizens played in the formation and growth of our nation."

The Chronicling America website – [chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov) – provides access to more than 15 million newspaper pages from 1789 to 1963. So far, the WVRHC has contributed 400,000 pages from more than 60 historic West Virginia newspapers. And, because of this grant, another 100,000 pages will soon be added to the site.

WVPRHC Curator Stewart Plein said this round of newspapers focuses on two periods of great upheaval in West Virginia history that have national implications — the Civil War and the Mine Wars.

"The struggles of West Virginia in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries were the struggles of the nation," Plein said. "West Virginia was at the crossroads of American

history during these periods, and the state's newspapers serve as a compendium of Civil War and labor history in the United States."

The Eastern Panhandle counties of Jefferson and Berkeley were heavily engaged during the Civil War in battle and conflict. John Brown's 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry ignited a firestorm that drove the country into the Civil War.


Martinsburg bore a heavy toll during the war as it was captured and recaptured a total of 37 times, with control constantly shifting between the Confederacy and the Union.

"The strategic locations of these towns made this area a hotbed of activity throughout the war," Plein said.

A half century later, in the southern coalfields, Mingo and Logan counties became the epicenter of labor unrest and spurred a debate on labor, unions, jobs and security.

"The mine wars of Paint  
Cabin Creek, the Battle of  
Mountain and the shootout  
Matewan exposed the poor  
and living conditions of mine  
their desire for a better way  
for themselves and their fa  
Plein said.

With the initial \$266,000 in 2011, the WVRHC began concentrating on the Wheeling Intelligencer, which they identified as the most significant newspaper for the time period. The only newspaper being published



**Slave Insurrection at  
HARPER'S FERRY.  
GREAT EXCITEMENT!**  
The Armory seized and trains  
stopped !  
**CARS FIRED INTO !**  
VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND MIL-  
ITARY ORDERED OUT !  
**CITIZEN'S TAKEN PRISONERS**  
*Blood Shed and Lives Lost !*  
The Insurrectionists Routed !  
Part of them flee to the Mountain !  
**PURSUIT !**

▲ Newspaper report on John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry.

western Virginia at the start of the Civil War, it held anti-slavery and pro-Union stances and supported the statehood movement.

The WVRHC holds the most comprehensive collection of West Virginia newspapers, including more than 50,000 reels of microfilm. The collection is the Center's most frequently consulted resource.

"Newspapers are among the most significant resources for studying nearly every topic. They are a daily record of what was happening in society over the years," Cuthbert said. ♡

*Images in this article are examples of the searchable content available on the Chronicling America website.*



# THE RESEARCH REPOSITORY SHOWCASES THE WVU HERBARIUM

WRITTEN BY IAN HARMON, SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS LIBRARIAN

WVU Libraries has partnered with the Department of Biology to make the WVU Herbarium's collection of plant specimens from West Virginia and the Southeastern United States available worldwide via the Libraries' Research Repository. The Herbarium is the largest facility of its kind in the state of West Virginia and contains 185,000 mounted and cataloged vascular plant specimens and approximately 26,000 bryophyte and lichen specimens. The Research Repository is a service of the WVU Libraries and the WVU Office of Research. It provides an online, open-access home for the scholarship, creative work and research of University faculty, researchers and students. The repository can be accessed at [researchrepository.wvu.edu](https://researchrepository.wvu.edu).

The WVU Herbarium represents an important part of the University's land-grant mission to improve the lives of West Virginians by serving the needs of naturalists, agriculturalists and biologists throughout the Mountain State. By digitizing the materials in the collection and making them available online, the Libraries' and Herbarium aim to make this resource more accessible to the people of West Virginia and the world. More information about the Herbarium is available at [biology.wvu.edu/about/facilities/wvu-herbarium](https://biology.wvu.edu/about/facilities/wvu-herbarium).

The Research Repository currently contains a small sample of the Herbarium's holdings, including a collection of West Virginia ferns and a general sample of flora of the Appalachian Mountains in West Virginia. The Libraries will continue to collaborate with Donna Ford-Werntz, herbarium curator, to digitize and publish the Herbarium's full collection in the repository.

"I'm delighted by this partnership with WVU Libraries to provide remote access for WVU Herbarium specimens," said Ford-Werntz. "Availability in the Research Repository strengthens outreach by facilitating online use of WVU Herbarium collections."

**Collector —**

W. Homer Duppstadt  
Common Name  
SOUTHERN LADY FERN  
Collection Date  
27-6-1977  
Harvested In  
Berkeley County, West Virginia 🌿





# WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR COLLECTION WHEN YOU GIVE RARE BOOKS

WRITTEN BY STEWART PLEIN, ASSOCIATE CURATOR, RARE BOOKS AND PRINTED RESOURCES

One of the most important parts of the gift process is what happens after a gift is received. In the case of rare books, students are often involved in the processing of new collections. Student internships can be arranged for course credit between the rare books curator and a faculty member. The internship covers the entire semester, providing a student with the opportunity to get hands-on experience with rare books and learn about standard curatorial practices.

During the spring semester, Lakin Davis, a junior double majoring in English and history, signed up for a rare book internship. She spent her time working on a new collection of what is known as publishers' bookbindings, the books with decorated covers from the 19th and early 20th century. Not only are these books beautiful, but they are also evidence of an important moment in the history of the book. Decades of experimentation went into the technological advancements and

manufacturing techniques and machines that made crafting these beautiful books possible.

Lakin worked with a donation of approximately 200 of these century-old books. Her task was to identify the many different features that make the books unique. She organized the books by publisher and created an inventory that identified each book's

unique features. Some of them, like "The Blue Flower" by Henry Van Dyke, were signed with a monogram by the designer, much like a painter signs a painting. The artist who designed this book was Margaret Armstrong and she used her initials as a monogram, tucking them into the lower right-hand corner of the cover's design.

Some books were stamped by machine in what looked like gold and silver, like the silver titles on the spine and the cover of "The Grenadier" by James E. Farmer. It wasn't long before publishers realized that silver tarnished, so aluminum was used for

the same effect. Real gold was used to stamp the cover on John Greenleaf Whittier's "The Tent on the Beach." Both books were published in 1899.

Many others were stamped with a multitude of colors that still look as fresh today as they did a century ago, like the children's book, "Five Little Peppers: The Adventures of Joel Pepper," by Margaret Sidney (1899), and "The Book of Witches," by Oliver Madox Hueffer, (1908) with its tower of smoke rising from the cauldron below luring us to open the cover and read what's inside.

With the onset of COVID-19 and the closure of on-campus activities, Lakin had to complete her internship from home. In order to finish her assignment, the books were scanned and made available online. The final part of the assignment, an internship presentation and the creation of an exhibit, was set up using the video conferencing platform Zoom. Lakin's virtual

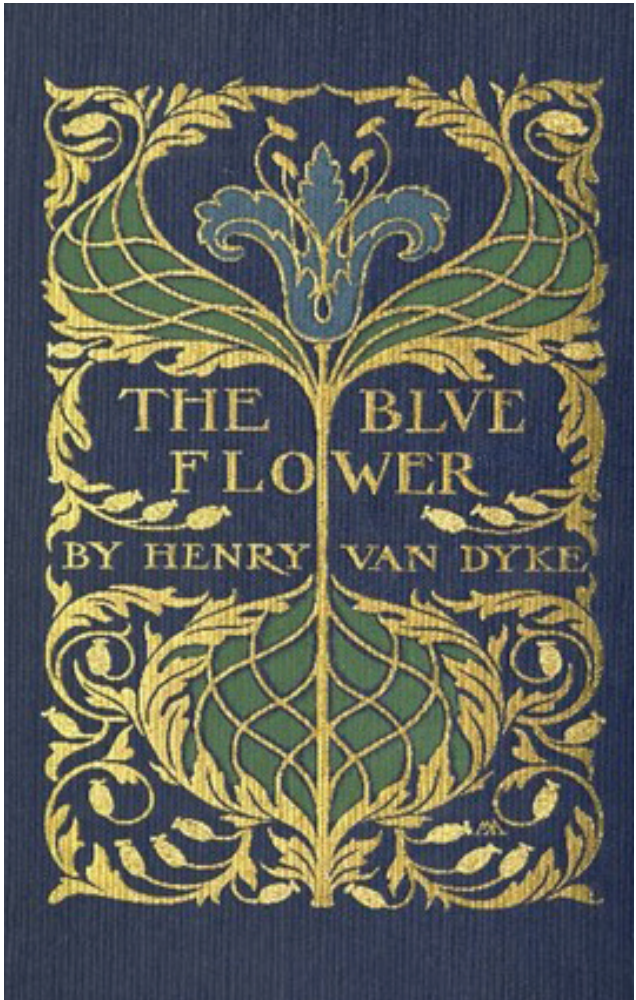
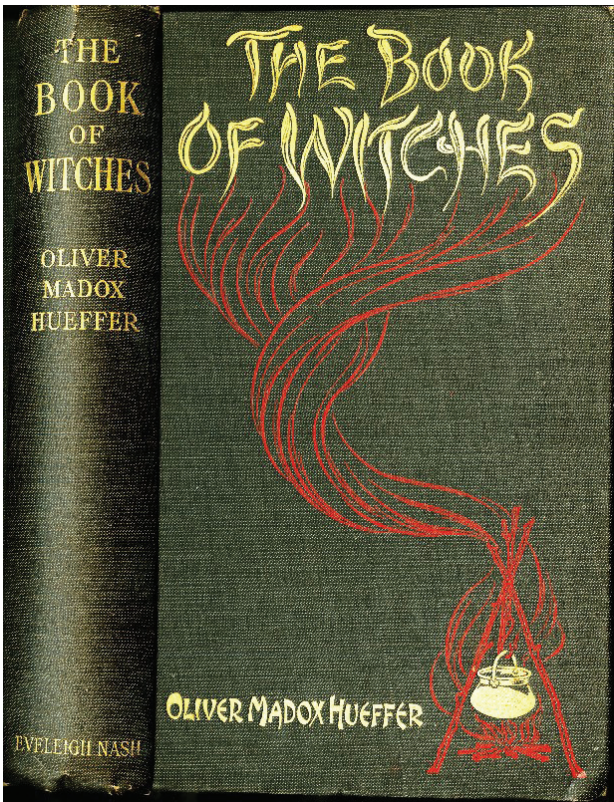


exhibit was drawn from one of the publishers she worked on, Little, Brown and Company, based in Boston, Massachusetts.

When you give a gift to the Rare Book Room, your gift becomes part of a history of giving that makes up the greater collection. Each gift is an important addition that enriches the collection as a whole, and educates students through hands-on activities such as internships and exhibits, classroom instruction and assignments, as well as scholarly research and writing. If you're a collector, you may want to consider making a donation to support WVU's rare book collection. Your gift will become a lasting legacy, educating students, like Lakin, for generations to come. ♡



# ART IN THE MOUNTAIN STATE

Grace Martin Taylor was one of West Virginia’s most prolific artists. Her archives have immense value to the study of West Virginia art history.

WRITTEN BY MONTE MAXWELL



▲ Grace Martin Taylor poses with her artwork.

A recent archival gift from the daughter of Grace Martin Taylor provides extensive materials for a deep exploration into the careers and creative processes for one of West Virginia’s most prolific artists and her contemporaries.

“This is an incredibly rich collection of immense value to the study of West Virginia art history,” said John Cuthbert, director of the West Virginia and Regional History Center

“It is likely the single-most informative collection in existence regarding art in the Mountain State during the 20th century.”

Morgantown native Taylor (February 11, 1903 - October 1, 1995) was a painter,



▲ Grace Martin Taylor sketched this cityscape while on a trip to Rome in 1972.

printmaker, collage artist and art educator. One of her major influences was her cousin, American modernist pioneer Blanche Lazzell, who introduced her to abstract artist Hans Hofmann in Provincetown, Massachusetts. Hofmann also became a mentor.

Unlike other leading West Virginia artists, including Lazzell, William R. Leigh and Virginia B. Evans, Taylor spent nearly her entire life in the Mountain State and was deeply embedded in the local art scene.

Taylor studied at WVU and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. In 1929, she began her teaching career at the Mason College of Fine Arts and Music in Charleston. She ascended to the school’s presidency, a post she held until Mason College merged with Morris Harvey College, today’s University of Charleston, in 1956. She returned to teaching until her retirement in 1968.

A proponent of bringing artists together, Taylor had key roles in founding the Allied Artists of West Virginia and the American Color Print Society.

“Grace Martin Taylor taught and influenced hundreds if not thousands of artists,” Cuthbert said. “She saved nearly everything of interest to her including hundreds of art exhibition catalogs, clippings and brochures.”

Those items are among the many pieces included in the most recent donation from Taylor’s daughter

Lucie Mellert. In addition, there are hundreds of original sketches in pencil, charcoal and watercolor, including notebooks documenting Taylor’s travels in the U.S. and abroad.

Of special note are dozens of lengthy and highly insightful original letters from Lazzell.

“These letters are packed with biographical information, art commentary, philosophy, instruction and observations on teachers including Albert Gleizes and Hans Hofmann,” Cuthbert said.

## MELLERT ENVISIONS THE COLLECTION INSPIRING FUTURE ARTISTS

“Along with preserving my mother’s legacy, I hope these archives can be a wellspring for teachers and students to learn about the creative process and discover techniques and ideas that are new to them and help

them create their own art,” Mellert said.

Mellert also donated her own archives, which include award plaques, correspondence, clippings, photographs and more, about herself and her promotion of her mother’s artwork.

For 15 years, Mellert was the editor and photographer for the Charleston Gazette-Mail’s popular “On the Town” section.

““On the Town” promoted all the good things happening in Charleston,” Mellert said.

Over the years, she photographed senators, congressmen, governors and movie stars, but she relished chronicling the achievements of children at the Clay Center in Charleston.

“When a child gets his or her picture in the newspaper, it promotes the child’s self-esteem,” Mellert said. “You’re encouraging them to create art, and their art shows the beauty in the world.”

Taylor created an immense body of paintings, prints and collages in a variety of realist and abstract styles. Her work has been exhibited at the National Museum of Women and the Arts, West Virginia University, the West Virginia State Museum and literally hundreds of other museums and galleries across the nation. ♡



# LIBRARIES NAME THREE MUNN SCHOLARS

**West Virginia University Libraries' Teaching and Learning Committee has selected three Honors College students as 2020 Robert F. Munn Undergraduate Library Scholars.**

"All of us at WVU Libraries are pleased to name Iain MacKay, Jordan Nistendirk and Jack Steketee as Munn Scholars," Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz said. "Despite all of the challenges surrounding COVID-19, such as a closed campus, they exceeded expectations in the research they conducted and the impressive works of scholarship they produced."

The WVU Libraries and the Honors College established the Robert F. Munn Undergraduate Library Scholars Award in 2009 to honor Dr. Robert F. Munn, dean of Library Services from 1957-1986. The award goes to one or more Honors students for an outstanding humanities or social sciences thesis based on research conducted in the WVU Libraries. Along with a \$1,000 award, the scholar's name is added to a plaque in the Downtown Campus Library and the thesis is added to the Research Repository @ WVU.

"I am thrilled the Honors College and WVU Libraries are able to continue this partnership to recognize our best and brightest humanities and social sciences scholars. These students deserve this recognition for producing their respective scholarly work that spans a variety of disciplines," said Dr. Damien Clement, acting dean of the Honors College.

All three Munn Scholars are from Morgantown.

**MACKay**

MacKay won for his thesis titled "Vermeer as Aporia: Indeterminacy, Divergent Narratives, and Ways of Seeing." The research process had him poring through 86 books, some dating back 200 years.

In his paper, he disputed the notion that paintings by 17th century Dutch artist Johannes Vermeer are ambiguous. One of the works he addresses is "Woman Holding a Balance," which contains the painting "Last Judgement." MacKay contends the image hints at two future paths or "foreshadow without resolution."

"By shifting the conception of Vermeer's works from ambiguity to indeterminacy, divergent narratives emerge which inform a more complex understanding of Vermeer's oeuvre," MacKay wrote. "These divergent narratives understand Vermeer's paintings as turning points in stories that extend beyond the canvas; moments where the possibilities of a situation diverge in different directions. Thus, a myriad of narratives might be contained in a single painting, all of which simultaneously have the possibility of existing, but not the actuality."

MacKay graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in art history from the College of Creative Arts and a bachelor's in philosophy from the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences with a minor in history. After taking off a year, he plans to pursue his PhD in art history.



▲ Iain MacKay, pictured with President E. Gordon Gee.

**NISTENDIRK**

Nistendirk won for his thesis titled "Insiders and Outsiders on the Gay Community in Weimar Berlin." He drew from primary and secondary sources in his research. Along with books from the library, he used the Libraries' electronic databases to find newspapers and travel guides from the period.

In his paper, Nistendirk explores the factors, such as tourism and hyperinflation, that led to Berlin being viewed as an "international gay capital" in the 1920s and sparked persecution and anti-homosexual laws just a decade later.

"The impact of visibility is a double-edged sword," Nistendirk said. "It helps facilitate activism and draws opposition to the community. People saw the community's open existence as the death of traditional values."

Though Adolf Hitler and Nazi leadership were originally ambivalent towards homosexuality in their

ranks, Hitler and the party became aggressively homophobic after taking power in 1933, Nistendirk explains in his thesis. They raided the Institute for Sexual Science, burned thousands of books relating to homosexuality, and arrested tens of thousands of German homosexuals and sentenced them to concentration camps.

"In less than 15 years, Berlin's gay community, the first global epicenter of gay culture, was forced back underground and the visibility of gay Germans was destroyed until after the Holocaust," Nistendirk wrote.

He concludes by calling "the story of 'gay Berlin' relevant in modern discussions of LGBTQ inclusion because it demonstrates how massive visibility can be both helpful and hurtful to the queer movement."

"Berlin is also a haunting reminder that the progress of the homosexual movement is never truly secure, and within a matter of decades the entire community's visibility can be destroyed for years to come," he wrote.



▲ Jordan Nistendirk

Nistendirk considers his paper as a way to increase his involvement in the gay community. So far, he has presented his paper at five symposiums.

Nistendirk graduated in May from the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences with dual majors of political science and history with minors in public relations and sociology.

After taking off a year, Nistendirk plans to pursue a Juris Doctor degree with a master's degree in public administration.

**STEKETEE**

Steketee won for his thesis titled "The Effects of Environmental Restoration on Housing Prices in Northern Colorado." For his project, he used the Libraries' resources to identify relevant up-to-date figures and recently conducted research from peer-reviewed journals.

He then had to transform the information and data he collected into a clear and concise paper. It was one of his largest undertakings as an undergraduate.

"It's rewarding to work on something for a whole semester," Steketee said.

In his paper, Steketee took on what would appear to be a simple question: "Environmental cleanups or environmental restoration efforts are happening all across the U.S. However, the question is, do these restoration projects provide value to nearby residents?"

Arriving at an answer required reviewing and analyzing 66,127 housing transactions recorded from 2006-2015 in



▲ Jack Steketee

the three Colorado counties.

"We find that there is some effect on housing prices attributed to an environmental restoration project. However, results show that the effect may only be felt when the property is located within a certain distance of the project and not felt further away, with even a negative effect shown," Steketee wrote.

Steketee graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics from the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design. ♡



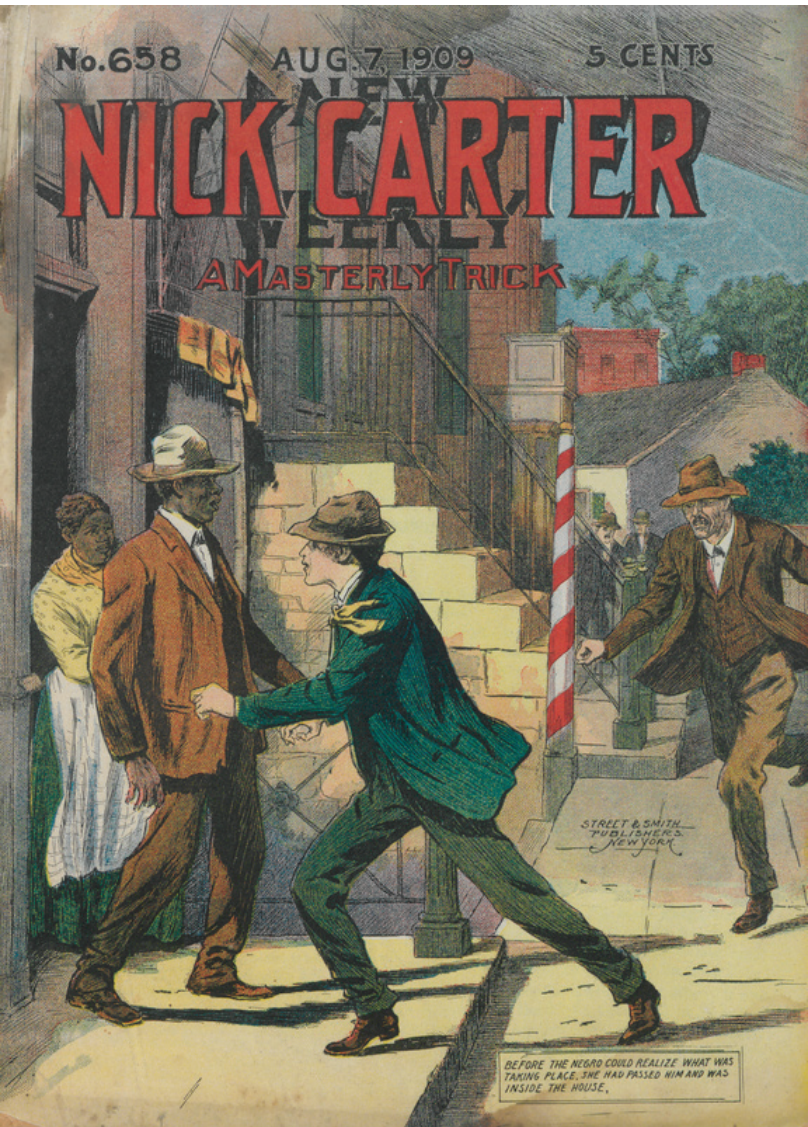
# CARONIA RECEIVES 2020-21 FACULTY/ STAFF EXHIBIT AWARD

The Libraries’ Arts in the Libraries committee presented the 2020-21 Faculty/Staff Exhibit Award to Nancy Caronia, a teaching assistant professor in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Department of English, for her proposal to visually showcase her scholarship, “Dime Novels: Racialization and Erasure,” in a new and experimental way.

While working on an interdisciplinary volume exploring how the American dime novel genre assisted in spreading discriminatory notions of Italian immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Caronia found, “... Dime novels reinforce racist and ethnic stereotypes not only of Italian immigrants, but also indigenous, black and Chinese individuals and communities.”

This exhibition, planned to open in February 2021 at the Downtown Campus Library, will include a series of dime novel covers, showing how stereotypes of these communities followed and/or promoted state and national policies regarding immigration policies, including the Chinese Exclusion Act, Indian removal acts and early Jim Crow practices focused on voter suppression.

“These covers reflect not only past U.S. history, but also current practices regarding 21st century



▲ Images courtesy Northern Illinois University Libraries’ “Nickels and Dimes Collection.”

immigration policies and discourse in both political and popular culture, a timely discourse with which to engage during the current national election cycle,” Caronia said.

Caronia’s work contributes to American and Italian Diaspora literary studies, as well as contemporary migration and gender studies. In 2017, Caronia received an NEH Summer Institute fellowship to the Bard Graduate Center’s “American Material Culture: Nineteenth-Century New York” in support of this project. With this award, Caronia received \$1,000 in professional development funds. ♡

# TWO STUDENTS RECEIVE DEAN OF LIBRARIES’ ARTS AWARDS

In December 2019, the Art in the Libraries Committee and Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz awarded College of Creative Arts students Lauren Cook and Feliks Pyron the Dean of Libraries’ Student Art Awards.

Cook, a sophomore intermedia major, won for “Falling,” an animation she created for her Intro to Electronic Media course. The intricate creation process required her to draw each frame in Photoshop before compiling and editing them in After Effects. “Falling” appeared on the infostations around campus.

Feliks Pyron, a third-year graduate student in the MFA Printmaking Program, won for “Queer Fables,” a relief print on BFK (a print making material). Using images drawn by hand, Pyron relief printed the laser-cut linoleum onto BFK and then mounted them onto 2”-thick panels.

Pyron described his work as “personal anecdotes of queer experience transformed into fable-esque caricatures in the hopes of invoking relatable feelings of confusion.” ♡



▲ Dean of Libraries’ Art Award winner Lauren Cook poses with Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz.



▲ “Queer Fables,” a relief print on BFK, by Feliks Pyron, Dean of Libraries’ arts award winner.



# OUR NEW HIRES

**West Virginia University Libraries brought aboard a new associate dean and four librarians during the 2019-2020 academic year.**

Dennis Smith joined WVU Libraries on September 1, 2019, as the new associate dean. He previously served as head of access services at the University of Miami and manager, access and commons at Brandeis University. He joins the management team during an exciting time as we continue to develop our learning organization and find new ways to meet the needs of the WVU and West Virginia communities.

Jenn Monnin joined the Health Sciences Library on August 19, 2019, as the Scholarly Engagement Librarian.

Miriam Cady joined the West Virginia and Regional History Center on October 28, 2019, as the instruction and public service coordinator.

Michelle Echols joining the KARM team January 13 as the metadata and cataloging librarian.

Jeff Werst joined Research Services on March 16 as the science librarian. ♡



▲ Dennis Smith



▲ Jenn Monnin



▲ Miriam Cady



▲ Jeff Werst



▲ Michelle Echols

## PUBLICATIONS

**Sally Brown** wrote an article titled “Curating Appalachian Futures: an interdisciplinary, collaborative project” in the Winter 2020 issue of Appalachian Curator.

**Jessica Dai** is an author and section lead for “Marking Open and Affordable Courses,” a collaboratively authored open access book that can be used to help institutions navigate the uncharted waters of tagging course material as open educational resources (OER).

**Kelly Diamond** wrote an article titled “Rejecting the criminal narrative: Designing a plagiarism avoidance tutorial” in Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship.

**Martin Dunlap** wrote an article titled “Best Practices for Adding Closed Captioning to Your Videos with Two Low-Cost Programs” in the March & June issue of the ALA Learning Exchange.

**Danielle Emerling** co-authored an article titled “Dear Senator and Representative: Saving Congressional Correspondence Data” in the March/April 2020 issue of Archival Outlook.

**Kurt McCoy** wrote a fiction story titled “Puppets of Frankenstein” published in Chillers: Tales Inspired by Classic Horror Films.

**Jenn Monnin** wrote an article titled “Breaking the Always Stressed Narrative” in the zine Mind-Full: Radical Mindfulness in Action.

**Stewart Plein** wrote an article titled “The War in Words: Union and Confederate Civil War Military Camp Newspapers in Western Virginia” in the journal The Smithfield Review: Studies in the History of the Region west of the Blue Ridge, vol. 23, 2019.

**Mark Podvia** wrote an article titled “The Battle of the Law Books” in The Green Bag, Winter 2020. The article tells the story of an 1863 Union attempt to take possession of the Virginia Law Library at Lewisburg.

**Lynne Stahl** co-authored an article titled “Developing Specialized Graduate Curricula for Health Information Professionals: Integrated Findings of a Scoping Review and an Employer Survey” in the Journal of Education for Library and Information Science, 61, no. 1.

**Beth Toren** wrote a book chapter titled “Level Up! Library Orientation with a Phone-Based Exploration Game” in the ALA Editions book 52 Ready-to-Use Gaming Programs for Libraries.

**Alyssa Wright** and **Kelly Diamond** co-authored an article titled “Why Can’t Intellectual Freedom and Copyright Get Along?” for the Association of College and Research Libraries Critical Thinking Cookbook.



On December 12, 2019, WVU Libraries celebrated the careers of seven longtime Library employees who retired through WVU’s Voluntary Separation Incentive Plan (VSIP): Randy Jenkins, Stephanie McCormick, Ginger Larew, Susanne Rasmussen, Kathy Hoover and David Bell posed with Dean Karen Diaz. Not pictured is Josephine Williams. ♡



## O'BRIEN, FORMER DEAN OF LIBRARIES, PASSES AWAY

**Frances O'Brien, former Dean of West Virginia University Libraries, passed away May 8, 2020, at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Her daughter, E.J. Painter, was with her.**

O'Brien served as dean of Libraries from June 1999 until her retirement in December 2011. During her tenure, she oversaw the construction of the Downtown Campus Library and the Library's state-of-the-art Book Depository as well as renovations to the Wise Library and Evansdale Library. In addition, she worked to implement multiple technological enhancements.

In 2006, the Wise Library received designation as a Literary Landmark because of the library's connection to the late Dr. Louise McNeill Pease, poet laureate of West Virginia from 1977-1993.

"Frances served as dean during an important era of growth for the WVU libraries," said John Cuthbert, director of the West Virginia and Regional History Center. "Funding and technological support for the WVU Libraries also increased dramatically during the period of her leadership as did WVU Libraries participation in regional and nationwide consortia like the Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium (PALCI) and Lyrasis."

PALCI membership provided WVU students and faculty with access to literally millions of new items, Penny Pugh, head of Research Services for the Downtown Campus Library, explained.

Pugh also praised O'Brien for partnering with Barbara Winters, then dean of Marshall Libraries, to initiate the work to create a virtual library for all of West Virginia to provide key online databases to all types of libraries — public, K-12 schools and higher education institutions. This eventually came into being under the West Virginia Library Commission and is known as WVInfoDepot, [wvinfo depot.org](http://wvinfo depot.org).



▲ Frances O'Brien

"I was personally grateful to her for improved professional development support, which allowed librarians to be more active in state and national organizations," Pugh said.

When Mary Strife, library director at WVU Tech, served as the Evansdale Library director under O'Brien, she saw O'Brien as an advocate for their librarians and staff.

"I think Frances helped raise the profile of the Evansdale Library and establish its importance to the campus. Also, she gave us the freedom to interact with our faculty and students in unique and relevant ways," Strife said.

A key to success was that O'Brien had established good relationships with the academic deans. When the plan to renovate the area of campus was being formulated, Strife recalls the Evansdale academic deans approaching O'Brien to make sure the library was included.

"We doubled the number of study rooms and added movable furniture so students could collaborate more easily. In the second wave of improvements, we got our café, Da Vinci's," Strife said. "You could see how much the enhancements meant to the campus community."

Prior to coming to WVU, O'Brien was the deputy university librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her career included library posts at Virginia Tech, the University of Tennessee, the University of Georgia and the University of Delaware.

WVU Libraries plans to recognize Dean O'Brien's career later this year with a more permanent memorial. Donations to WVU Libraries, in memory of Frances O'Brien, may be made online at [library.wvu.edu/give](http://library.wvu.edu/give) or by mail to **WVU Libraries, P.O. Box 6069, Morgantown, WV 26506.** ❧

## HISTORY PIONEER'S LEGACY LIVES ON

**Whether "bridging" the gap between disciplines (civil engineering and history) or between the past and the still-used bridges and buildings in the present, Dr. Emory L. Kemp will be remembered for his passionate work that forged a new path for preservationists around the world.**

Professor Emeritus of History and Civil Engineering at WVU and longtime supporter of the West Virginia and Regional History Center, Dr. Kemp died January 23, 2020, at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown at the age of 88.

A pioneer in the fields of industrial archaeology and the history of technology, Dr. Kemp worked tirelessly, using his skill, knowledge and insight to preserve historic structures around the world and to inspire generations of students to continue these efforts.

"Emory's work ranged from world landmarks like the Sydney Opera House to West Virginia's iconic Philippi Bridge and the Wheeling Suspension Bridge. His legacy will be felt by industrial architecture historians for generations to come," WVRHC director John Cuthbert said.

In Wheeling, Kemp has been honored for his extensive efforts to preserve and restore the iconic Wheeling Suspension Bridge and West Virginia Independence Hall, the state's birthplace. Through these efforts, including writing a book, both structures have been designated National Historic Landmarks.

Among a lifetime of honors, three of the most significant were elections to the Order of Vandalia for Distinguished Service to West Virginia University, as a Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and as a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers in the United Kingdom. He was a board member emeritus of the West Virginia Independence Hall Foundation, among other civic and professional affiliations. He was a founder of the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia.



▲ Emory L. Kemp

A native of Chicago, Kemp earned a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Illinois. After receiving a Fulbright Fellowship in 1953, he went to London, where he received a diploma from the Imperial College of Science and Technology and a Master of Science degree in engineering from the University of London. He returned to the University of Illinois to earn a doctorate in 1962, then joined the faculty of WVU.

As an educator, Kemp was a longtime professor of civil engineering and served as chair of the Department of Civil Engineering. He started WVU's program in the history of science and technology, and, in 1989, established the Institute for the History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology.

On May 31, 2018, WVU Libraries honored his work with an exhibit and reception titled "The Structure of History: Celebrating Industrial Heritage and Preservation in the Dr. Emory L. Kemp Collection." The Libraries also recognized him in the fall 2019 issue of *Ex Libris*.

Emory Kemp is survived by his wife, Janet Kemp; his children, Mark Kemp, Geoffrey Kemp and Alison (Edward) Anderson; his grandchildren, Paul Anderson, Colin, Mairwyn and Sayward Kemp and Adrienne, Max and Josie Kemp-Rye; and a cousin John (Martha) Kemp. ❧

*In 2017, Kemp donated his papers to the WVRHC and, in conjunction with creating the archive, Emory and Janet, with a generous contribution from the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, established the Dr. Emory L. Kemp History of Technology Endowment Fund so that others may continue to learn from his and others work on historic engineering structures. Donations to this fund may be made online at [give.wvu.edu/wvu-libraries](http://give.wvu.edu/wvu-libraries). Please note the fund number of 3L526 as part of your donation.*



# REMEMBERING LARRY SHAVER



▲ Larry Shaver discussing his Asimov collection with Michael Ridderbusch, associate curator for archives and manuscripts; Harold M. Forbes, retired rare books curator; and John Cuthbert, director of the West Virginia and Regional History Center.

**Larry Shaver, 68, died July 21, 2020, with his family by his side in Oklahoma City after a two-year courageous battle with esophageal cancer. A Fairmont native, Shaver graduated from WVU in 1974 and spent more than 35 years in civil service, working for the FAA as an air traffic control instructor.**

In 2002, Shaver donated his extensive Isaac Asimov collection, including many signed first editions, to the

Libraries' Rare Book Collection. His gift formed the foundation of the Libraries' Asimov Collection, [asimov.sandbox.wvu.edu](http://asimov.sandbox.wvu.edu).

"Larry's gifts of Asimov's massive oeuvre to the Libraries, as much as his congenial and delightful presence, were a joy to me and many others at West Virginia University. His contributions to the rare books collection and to our intellectual resources were immense," said Harold M. Forbes, retired curator of books.

Shaver's initial and continued donations became the impetus for the 600+ books, some signed by Azimov, and related memorabilia that comprise the largest known Asimov collection in the world. During that time, WVU has hosted lectures and tours on the science fiction giant and Shaver's efforts attracted attention for additional donors who have assisted in growing the collection for his alma mater.

Shaver is survived by his father, Karl, of Fairmont; son Brian (Heather) from his first wife Mona; daughter Brianne and her children Joelle, Micah (Gloria) and Traviston; sister Karla (Frankie) and her daughter Mollie (Chase); step-daughter Tiffany (Henry) from his second wife Teresa and her children Robert, Nicole, Shelbie, Wayne, Bryce, Travis and Brandon; along with several cousins and great-grandchildren. ♡



Eleanor McDonald, a longtime WVU Libraries employee, passed away on April 30, 2020. She worked in cataloging for many years and was always a rock in any storm. One of her duties was managing student employees, and many of them would return years after they graduated to visit her. ♡

# A PLAN FOR THE UNEXPECTED

No one imagined in May 2018, when retiring Librarian Carroll Wilkinson uncovered a 2006 file detailing a bequest from donor Marsha Stern, that the changes of the ensuing 20 years would lead to even greater benefits for the Library and for addressing a need that has come front and center during the COVID-19 emergency — student food security.

Back in 2006, the Libraries had just completed a large building campaign that encouraged new donors such as to support the Libraries through endowments and planned gifts. Stern took on the challenge and established the Marsha Sadowsky Stern Endowment for Information Literacy Programs, celebrating her support of WVU Libraries work in this area.

Fast forward to 2018. Libraries' Development Director Paula Martinelli called Stern to introduce herself. In the course of conversation, Stern noted that her bequest amount had grown considerably. The growth and the different times, Martinelli pointed out, can create new opportunities. While Stern still supported the area of information literacy, new directions had changed the viability of the fund as written. Stern now wanted to find a way to honor her parents' support for her education and their love of WVU and, remembering her time at WVU, she also realized that there may be unique student financial needs where she could bridge the gap. The growth in the bequest amount would be able to fund both.

Stern designated two operating agreements through her bequest, The Geraldine and Nathan Sadowsky University Archive Endowment, to preserve WVU history and faculty research through the West Virginia and Regional History Center, and the Marsha Sadowsky Stern Food Security Fund. The Food Security Fund will join a cadre of student life funds that are being put to the test during the financial strain of the COVID-19 emergency, directly providing financial assistance for daily needs. Alumni, like Marsha Stern, were able to anticipate challenges to student education that were not out in the open previously, raising the bar for all Mountaineers. **Let's go!** ♡

# WVU LIBRARIES LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE GIVING PAGE

Giving to WVU Libraries has changed significantly since the days of the very practical book endowment. While we continue to rely heavily on those funds for our resource purchases, online communications and giving are opening the door to greater involvement of our alumni and all donors with targeted opportunities and particularly, in providing direct support to students.

Our new Giving webpage is designed to make those connections between how we work day to day and how different types of giving, an annual gift, endowment or major support of librarian positions and research, can help us keep pace with the groundbreaking work of our faculty and students, from medicine to engineering to education and more.

We hope our stories demonstrate how your support enables us to expand the important role our Libraries play on campus and in community life.

For more information or to make a gift visit [library.wvu.edu/give](http://library.wvu.edu/give) or contact Development Director Paula Martinelli at 304-293-0303 or email [paula.martinelli@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:paula.martinelli@mail.wvu.edu). ♡



# LIBRARY ENDOWMENT TO REWARD CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

**West Virginia University Libraries has established the Library Student Award Endowment through a thoughtful and generous bequest from the estate of Dr. Paul Atkins, Jr., the revered journalism professor. The endowment will support current and future library awards for student research and creative efforts that demonstrate the effective use of library resources.**

For several years, the Robert F. Munn Award has recognized the best in undergraduate student research. Established in honor of the longtime Dean of Library Services, the Munn Award is presented to one or more Honors students for an outstanding humanities or social sciences thesis based on research conducted in the WVU Libraries.

Since 2015, the Dean of the Libraries Student Art Award goes to two students in the College of Creative Arts. This cash award is given in conjunction with the CCA Juried Student Exhibit in the Mesaros Gallery. Awardee work is exhibited for a year in the Downtown Campus and Evansdale libraries.

These are just two examples of awards that will now be directly supported with donor funds through the Library Student Award Endowment.

In addition, new endowments and scholarship prizes will encourage our students to expand the boundaries of research and creatively look at new ways to bring these concepts to the campus and community.

Most recently, our West Virginia and Regional History Center has contributed firsthand materials toward projects that highlight the historic record using innovative methods, and our subject librarians are working with the Office of Undergraduate Research to develop a new award in that space.

"We've recognized for quite a while the need for a permanent way to ensure our students, across all disciplines, are recognized for the great work they do utilizing our resources and staff and enhancing our spaces," Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz said. "The funds that Dr. Atkins provided will allow us to grow in our ability to recognize and reward many facets of student success."

Competitive awards for these projects and others will provide student scholarship aid through a stable endowment that can also grow with individual donor financial support. Recent events have only served to emphasize that our students will need and can receive the support they require through WVU Libraries resources, including financial scholarship based on their unique and groundbreaking work.

For more information on how you can also help our students with this new opportunity contact Development Director Paula Martinelli at **304-293-0303** or email [paula.martinelli@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:paula.martinelli@mail.wvu.edu). ♡







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