

2016

Annual Report, 2015-2016

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Libraries. Special Collections Department

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Annual Report

Special Collections

University of Arkansas Libraries

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Submitted by Angela Fritz, Interim Head of Special Collections

Special Collections enjoyed another successful year in 2015-2016. The faculty and staff of Special Collections continued to provide excellent service to hundreds of researchers and supporters through programing, research assistance, instruction, exhibits, digital projects, online research tools, and publications.

Personnel

Lilly Carrel was hired as Senior Level Archival Manager and quickly became integral to the operations of the department. She has supported the department in accessioning 70 collections totaling over 800 l.f. Heath Robinson was hired as the James D. Bales Project Archivist and has been a major asset to the grant project working efficiently and effectively to process the large collection. Interim Head of Special Collections, Angela Fritz received her Digital Archives Specialist (DAS) certificate from the Society of American Archivist. And, Special Collections was fortunate to have stellar hourly employees help the department achieve its goals. Without the assistance of Ashley Cain, Jacob Cornett, Abby Critselous, Christopher Galindo, Sarah Green, Cameron Henley, Keleigh Hibbard, Jane Justus, Kalie Kaitschuck, Allison McPherson, Heath Robinson, Abigail Sciedschlag, Angel Sigears, Chelsea Thomas, Jacob Yount, Mehreen Jamal, Tyrel Weston, Kris Massangale, Joey Jeckel, the department would not be able to run as smoothly or efficiently.

NHPRC Grant

This year marked a special milestone for the department as Special Collections secured an *Access to Historical Records* grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) of the National Archives. Interim Head of Special Collections Angela Fritz was the principal investigator of this project entitled *Seeing Red: James D. Bales and the Southern Red Scare*. The award amount for this grant was \$73,989. The grant will fund processing of the James D. Bales papers, comprising 435 linear feet (l.f.), in an 18-month time period. The Bales project was one of seven grants projects awarded by the NHPRC in 2016. This is the second NHPRC grant that Special Collections has received; the first was for \$35,101 for processing the Orval Faubus papers which was awarded in the 1980s. To date, this is the second largest NHPRC grant awarded to the state of Arkansas. According to the files of Research and Sponsored Programs, this is the largest grant that Special Collections has received to date. The grant will successfully raise the visibility of the University of Arkansas libraries, assist in

reducing the department's backlog, as well as solidify a nationally significant collection area on Cold War politics and the anticommunism movement in the postwar period. This grant will also support the research and teaching needs of the University of Arkansas faculty and students, as well as attract national and international researchers to the libraries.

Manuscripts Unit

A total of 88 manuscript collections, encompassing approximately 892 linear feet, were added to Special Collections' holdings this year; and 33 manuscript collections totaling 347 linear feet were processed. Among these new collections is the Billy James Hargis Papers Addendum. The collection, totaling over 85 linear feet, documents the personal and professional career of the conservative evangelist. Todd Lewis processed this collection. The Verna Garvan Collection was also opened to the public. The Garvan Papers document the life's accomplishments of Verna Garvan, business woman, art collector, self-taught horticulturist, philanthropist, and founder of the Garvan Woodland Gardens in Hot Springs, Arkansas. This collection was processed by Vera Ekechukwu. In addition, the papers of Harvey and Bernice Jones were opened. The Jones collection documents the personal, professional, and philanthropic activities of Harvey and Bernice Jones as well as the history of the Jones Trucking Line, the development of the Jones Center, and the establishment Har-Ber Meadows Housing Development. In addition to the aforementioned collections, 6 collections documenting university history, totaling 8 l.f., were organized through the efforts of University Archivist, Amy Allen with the assistance Heath Robinson. Catherine Wallack processed two new architectural records collections including the Cyrus Sutherland Papers and the Neil Hamill Park Papers. In addition to these projects, 42 finding aids were posted on the Special Collections' website making more of the department's holdings accessible online.

One of the Department's most notable acquisitions included the records of the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, the oldest all-documentary film festival in North America. The Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival (HSDFF) Archives offer a significant addition to Special Collections' extensive film holdings documenting twentieth century art, culture, environmentalism, and politics. Totaling close to 300 linear feet, the HSDFF Archives will provide vast educational and research resources documenting the history of documentary film. Spanning a fascinating 24-year history, the HSDFF archives include over 11,000 original documentary films as well as an extensive collection of film memorabilia and artifacts. Not only will the University of Arkansas Libraries serve as the official home of the HSDFF archives, but Special Collections and the Hot Springs Documentary Film Institute will continue to work in partnership by building this on-going collection with yearly additions which will ultimately offer the country an unparalleled view of the development of the documentary genre of filmmaking.

Research Services

Research Services received 1640 patrons during the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Of the 942 researchers, 404 patrons corresponded via email, mail, or telephone, and 540 visited Special Collections in person. The majority of researchers were from the university itself; 183 undergraduates, 83 graduate students, and 125 faculty/staff used services provided within the department. University students, faculty, staff, and alumni comprised 45% of patrons; students

and faculty from other institutions made up 14% of patrons, and almost 14% of patrons were from businesses, the media, and other organizations. Patrons from the general public remained steady at around 27% of those served.

Special Collections conducted over 2600 research and reference interactions and 563 research consultations. Staff made 16,770 photocopies and 360 scans; this is a rate of 1,398 photocopies and 30 scans per month. In addition, patrons made over 19,700 scans or photos with their own equipment. The department hosted or received international research inquiries from 46 patrons in 19 countries: Japan, Greece, South Africa, the United Kingdom, Austria, the Netherlands, Italy, Australia, Sweden, France, Chile, Italy, Portugal, Canada, Germany, China, Brazil, Taiwan, and South Korea.

Materials Used

During the year almost 3,000 manuscript boxes, volumes, and items, 968 volumes from the Arkansas Collection, and 300 maps and photographs were used by researchers. Inquiries reached the department from 40 different states and 19 different countries. The most heavily used collections were:

1. CU Papers (MC468)
2. Orval Faubus Papers (MS F27 301)
3. William Grant Still and Verna Arvey Papers (MC1125)
4. Edward Durell Stone Papers (MC340)
5. J. William Fulbright Papers (MS F956 144)
6. E. Fay Jones Papers (MC340)
7. Florence Price Papers Addendum (MC988a)
8. Florence Price Papers (MC988)
9. Diane Blair Papers (MC1632)
10. CIES Papers (MC703)

Citations

This year saw the publication of numerous books, articles, events, and exhibits that incorporated research in Special Collections. These include:

- Hahn, Del. *Smuggler's End: The Life and Death of Barry Seal*. Gretna: Pelican Publishing Company, 2016.
- Rider, Toby. *Cold War Games: Propaganda, the Olympics, and U.S. Foreign Policy*. Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2016.

- Taylor, Goldie. “My Second Great-Grandmother Was a Southern Outlaw – and a Slave,” *The Daily Beast*. 16 April 2016. (Article).
<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/04/17/my-second-great-grandmother-was-a-southern-outlaw-and-a-slave.html>.
- Wappel, Anthony J. and Dennis Garrison. *On the Avenue: An Illustrated History of Fayetteville’s US Highway 71B*. Fayetteville, AR, 2015.
- Scranton, Margaret. “Hillary’s Arkansas Comeback: Achieving Education Standards Reform,” in *Hillary Rodham Clinton and the 2106 Election: Her Political and Social Discourse*. Lannahan, MD: Lexington Books, 2015.
- Allen, Amy Leigh, and Timothy G. Nutt. *University of Arkansas*. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2015.
- Museo de Arte de Ponce . *Construyedo el museo el edificio de Edward Durell Stone*. Ponce, Puerto Rico. Exhibit, 3 March 2016 – 11 July 2016.
- Blackford, Eugene. *Sharpshooter: The Selected Letters and Papers of Maj. Eugene Blackford*, C.A.A. Asheville, NC: CFS Press, 2015.

Instruction

Special Collections provided bibliographic and archival research instruction for 32 classes and more than 644 students. The department also held four internal training sessions and five instruction sessions for non-University researchers reaching more than 100 people.

Index Arkansas

Krista Casada continues to add local and regional articles to Index Arkansas. Her hard work has proven to be very supportive of teaching and research initiatives focusing on local and regional history of the state and Ozark region.

Digital Projects

Special Collections continued to lead the library’s digitization projects. The projects completed in 2015-2016 include:

- “Drawing Distinctions: American Cartoonist George Fisher,” Digital Collection, University of Arkansas Special Collections, July 2015.
- “Cyrus Sutherland: Architect, Educator, and Preservationist,” Digital Collection, University of Arkansas Special Collections, December 2015.
- “Commence and Go Forth: University of Arkansas Commencement Speeches,” Digital Collection, University of Arkansas Special Collections, October 2015.

In addition, Special Collections extended its digital program beyond in-house digital projects to include digital initiatives with important new multi-institutional partnerships including:

The Fulbright Source –Phase 2

Special Collections worked with the U.S. State Department and the International Institute of Education to digitize selected images and documents from the Fulbright Papers. These scanned items were uploaded to a digital asset management system to be used internally

by Fulbright Program offices, the State Department, and embassies from around the world. Angela Fritz led this project with assistance of Vera Ekechukwu and Lilly Carrel.

CERES Grant

In partnership with CRL, the United States Agriculture Information Network (USAIN), and the Agricultural Network Information Center, Special Collections began a project to digitize the Arkansas Agricultural Extension Circulars. The circulars, issued by the Agriculture and Cooperative Extension Services, provide a vast array of information related to agriculture, home improvement, and everyday living. The goal of the project is to digitize thousands of pages of publications, spanning 1914 to 1945 which will be published online via CONTENTdm, the libraries' digital content management system. The project will make these significant Arkansas and agriculture-related publications easily accessible to historians, scholars, and the public. The team project involved Special Collections, the Digital Service Unit, Technical Services and Cataloging, and the Agricultural Librarian.

UMBRA: Search African American History

University of Arkansas Libraries added over 2,392 digitized items to a new national discovery tool called *UMBRA: Search African American History*. Developed as a free digital platform, *UMBRA* brings together historical content from archives, libraries, and museums from across the United States. With this unique partnership, University of Arkansas Libraries joins the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, the Digital Public Library of America, and over 500 academic and research libraries from around the country in supporting this remarkable discovery tool. Through creative partnerships, open data, and innovative technology, the University of Arkansas Libraries plans to continue to add new material to *UMBRA*. Special Collections looks forward to this exciting opportunity to facilitate discovery to its collections as well as support new scholarship in the area of African American studies for students, scholars, and researchers worldwide.

J. William Fulbright Finding Aid and Webpage Redesign

Special Collections also worked in partnership with the Digital Services Unit and Web Services to digitize the 9-volume finding aid for the J. William Fulbright papers which had never been available online. In addition, the department redesigned a guide to highlight interrelated manuscript collections, digital collections as well as finding aids for organizational archives relating to international education agencies and programs.

Programming and Outreach

Special Collections continued to provide a series of vibrant and innovative public programs.

This year marked the *Ozark Folksong Digital Collection*'s formal opening. The largest collection of digital audio files serve to preserve and provide access to the rich musical legacy of the Ozark Mountains. The day-long event celebrated the collection's availability featuring guest speakers and musical performances and paid tribute to University of Arkansas folklorist, Mary Parler's legacy through a celebration of music.

The Department continued its collaborative venture with **Tusk and Trotter American Brasserie** in Bentonville, Arkansas. Special Collections and the Bentonville restaurant sponsored a series of bi-monthly events focusing on Arkansas foodways and culture. The “Homestead Series: Celebrating and Preserving the Culinary History of the Natural State” featured a presentation on the extensive role food plays in shaping the state’s culture, followed by a themed dinner prepared by Chef Rob Nelson.

Interim Head, Angela Fritz served on a panel celebrating **Arkansas Reel History**. The panel discussed the importance of privately-owned film collections and home movies which tell stories, document communities, and capture family memories as an important, yet fragile, part of the country’s film heritage.

Special Collections contributed to the **Global Ties U.S. Regional Summit, “Diplomacy Begins Here”** which was sponsored by Tulsa Global Alliance and Global Ties of Arkansas on March 31- April 1, 2016. The Summit was designed to engage globally-minded people from diverse backgrounds to explore the innovations and impacts that stem from international relationships. The summit, one of four regional meetings held throughout the country, focused on international visitors programs, global education, and international business development. On Thursday March 31st, interim Head of Special Collections, Angel Fritz spoke at the summit regarding the legacy of J. William Fulbright. And, on April 1, participants traveled to Fayetteville to tour Special Collections and explore the important legacy of J. William Fulbright through his papers and associated cultural education collections.

In addition, Special Collections hosted an **International Delegation of Fulbright Commission Executive Directors** from around the world. Special Collections hosted a tour of the department as well as provided research assistance for the guests who had a day to explore the libraries’ rich collections relating to international education and cultural exchange. The following participants will be visiting Special Collections between May 28 -May 29: Michael Hawes, Fulbright Commission Executive Director, Canada; Lonnie Johnson, Fulbright Commission Executive Director, Austria; Luis Loureiro, Fulbright Commission Executive Director, Brazil; Matthew Sussman, Fulbright Commission Executive Director, Japan; William Vocke, Fulbright Commission Executive Director, Taiwan; and Nancy Neil, President, Board of Directors, Fulbright Alumni Association.

Rare Book Acquisitions

Special Collections continued to purchase volumes for the rare book collection. Some highlights include:

- Several works in the Cherokee language including translated gospels, psalms, and hymn books dating from 1849-1909.
- Two wonderful additions from the Guild of Women Binders. The two works by the Guild of Women Binders include S.C. Hall, ed., *The Book of Gems: The Poets and Artists of Great Britain* (London: Henry G. Bohn, 1836) and John Merbecke, *The Book of Common*

Prayer (London: William Pickering, 1844). The Guild of Women Binders was founded by Frank Karslake in 1898. It operated until 1904 as a loosely-knit federation of women binders from such groups as the Edinburgh Social Union, the Kirkby Lonsdale Handicraft Class, the Chiswick Art Workers' Guild, and Miss Bassett's Leighton Buzzard Handicraft Class for crippled girls. Rare book historians believe that because the women in the Guild were generally unaware of the long history of traditional bookbinding design, they produced designs that were freer and less stereotyped than their male counterparts in the trade. These handsomely produced books will make a significant contribution to the study of women in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century book trade. Of particular note is *The Book of Gems* which represents the work of Miss Constance Karslake who is considered one of the more outstanding women binders represented by the Guild.

- Additional treasures include five medieval facsimiles including:
 - ***The Black Hours (Das Schwarze Stundenbuch)***
Codicology
 Date: Mid-to late 15th century
 Style: Gothic
 Language: Latin
 Origin: Bruges, Belgium
 Patron: Unknown
 Original Manuscript: Morgan Library and Museum (New York)
 - ***Codex Rotundus***
Codicology
 Date: 1480
 Style: Gothic
 Language: Latin and French
 Origin: Bruges
 Patron: Adolf of Cleaves, nephew of Phillip the Good, (Duke of Burgundy).
 Original Manuscript: Dombibliothek Hildesheim, (Germany).
 - ***Codex of Medicine of Frederick II***
Codicology
 Period: Thirteenth century
 Style: Byzantine/Romanesque
 Language: Latin
 Patron: Emperor Frederick II
 Original Location: Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana (Florence, Italy)
 - ***Westminster Abbey Bestiary***
Codicology
 Date: 1275-1290
 Style: Gothic
 Language: Latin, French
 Origin: York (England)
 Patron: Westminster Abbey
 Original: Westminster Abbey Library (England)
 - ***Mainz Gospels (Mainzer Evangeliar)***

Codicology
Date: 1230-1250
Style: Gothic
Language: Latin
Origin: Mainz, Germany
Patron: Archbishop of Mainz Cathedral
Original: Hofbibliothek (Aschaffenburg, Germany)

Exhibits

The Special Collections' exhibits committee, under the leadership of Catherine Wallack, continued to install interesting, visually appealing installations. The exhibits promoted Arkansas history while highlighting the department's unique collections. In addition to the scheduled exhibits, the committee is often called upon to install displays upon short notice so as to complement events around campus. These exhibits have increased Special Collections presence across campus and beyond the campus boundaries. In addition to Ms. Wallack, the exhibit committee includes Joshua Youngblood, Amy Allen, Valerie Robertson, and Kasey Kelm. Some of the exhibits this year included:

- "Hit that Line: Over 120 years of Arkansas Football" (Mullins Library Research Commons)
- "Lives Transformed: The People of Southland College" (Walton Reading Room)
- Serenade to the Motherland: Arkansas's Jazz Virtuoso John Stubblefield (Mullins Library Research Commons)
- "The Fulbright Legacy: The J.W. Fulbright Papers and Related Collections" (Special Collections Entry)
- "KUAF: 30 Years as a National Public Radio Affiliate" (Walton Reading Room)
- "Mary Celestia Parler: Arkansas's Inspired Folklorist" (Walton Reading Room)
- "A Tune Caused the Valley to Ring': Remembering Arkansas Folksongs, Musicians, and Collectors" (Special Collections Hallway)
- "Collecting and Creating: Selections from the John Gould Fletcher Library and Papers." Special Collections Reading Room
- "Never a Step Backward': The New Deal in Arkansas." (Main Floor of Mullins Library)
- "What Makes a Book 'Rare': Selections from Special Collections." (Special Collections Reading Room)

Personnel Accomplishments Special Collections 2014-2015

Grants

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). Principal Investigator, *Seeing Red: James D. Bales and the Southern Red Scare*, Access to Historical Records Grant, National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). (January 2016).

Refereed Publications

Youngblood, Joshua (Special Collections). "Benjamin J. (B. J.) Rosewater (1857–1943)." *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*. (5 September 2015). Available online: <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=8500>.

Youngblood, Joshua (Special Collections). "Following a Trail of Tin Cans: Archival Engagement, 'Tin Can Tourism,' and the Internet life of Historical Images." *Archival Issues: Journal of the Midwest Archives Conference*, Vol. 36, no. 2 (August 2015), 36-53.

Non-Refereed Publications

Allen, Amy Leigh (Special Collections) and Timothy G. Nutt. *University of Arkansas*. Arcadia Publishing, 2015.

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). Digital History Review, *The American Presidency Project*, Internet Resource, *Choice*, Vol. 52, No. 12 (August 2015).

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). Book Review, *Historical Dictionary of the Kennedy and Johnson Era* by Richard Dean Burns and Joseph M. Siracusa, *Choice*, Vol. 53, No. 5 (January 2016).

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). Angela Fritz and Lora Lennertz, "Ask an Archivist," Ozark Folksong Digital Collection at the University of Arkansas Libraries," *Choice*, Vol. 53, No. 10 (June 2016).

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). Book Review, *Women, War, and Violence: Topography, Resistance, and Hope*, edited Mariam M Kurtz and Lester R. Kurtz, *Choice*, Vol. 53, No. 10 (June 2016).

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). Book Review, *Dance Hall Democracy: The Social Geography of the Hollywood Canteen* by Sherrie Tucker, *Pacific Historical Review*, Vol. 85, No. 2 (May 2016) 294-95.

Youngblood, Joshua (Special Collections). *Of Passover and Pilgrimage: The Natchez Jewish Experience*. Curated by Marcie Cohen Ferris. Temple B'nai Israel, Natchez, Mississippi. *The Journal of Southern Jewish History*, v. 18 (Fall 2015), 208-213. Exhibit review.

Presentations

Allen, Amy, Linda Jones, Phd., and Joshua Youngblood (Special Collections). "Traveling Native Routes toward Discovery: Digital Humanities and Campus Collaborations with Special Collections." 2016 Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Meeting. 20 May 2016.

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). "J. William Fulbright's Life and Legacy," Global Ties Summit, Tulsa, Oklahoma, March 31, 2016. (Invited)

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). "Preserving Arkansas's Reel History," Panel Discussion, Documentary Film Festival, Little Rock, Arkansas, October, 2015. (Invited)

Fritz, Angela (Special Collections). "Tracing the Roots of Arkansas' Restaurant Culture," *Homestead Series: Celebrating and Preserving the Culinary History of the Natural State*, Tusk and Trotter Restaurant, Bentonville, Arkansas, September, 2015.

Kamotsky, Irene, Lacy Wolfe, Amy Allen (Special Collections). How to Get Started with an Institutional Repository. Arkansas Library Association Annual Meeting, Little Rock, AR, 5 October 2015. Presentation.

Youngblood, Joshua (Special Collections). "Treasures in our Backyard: Bringing Special Collections to K-12 Learning Environments." Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Preconference, Coral Gables, Florida. 21 June 2016. Conference paper.

Youngblood, Joshua (Special Collections). "Personal & Local History with Folklore Archives." Presentation for the University of Arkansas Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. 30 March 2016. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas.

Youngblood, Joshua (Special Collections). "Academic Archives and Public Engagement: Connecting Collections with the Communities they Serve." International Council on Archives Annual Conference, Reykjavik, Iceland. 28 September 2015. Conference paper.

Youngblood, Joshua (Special Collections). "What's So Special about Special Collections?" Presentation for the University of Arkansas Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. 23 September 2015. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas.