Global Impact

UB Librarians are making a positive impact in Ghana, Puerto Rico and Singapore.

SHAPING OUR FUTURE

RECORDINGS AT RISK
Music Library receives grant to preserve unique musical recordings

DELIVERY+
Enhanced document delivery service for the UB Community
Welcome to the Spring 2018 edition of UB Libraries Today. As a premier academic research library, our place in the world is not limited to the walls of our libraries’ buildings. We not only provide access to a global network of information, but we also welcome opportunities to impact the global communities we work with.

At the heart of the University Libraries are the members of our outstanding staff, dedicated individuals who share a commitment to assisting others in person and online, on our campuses and around the world. This issue’s feature story highlights UB librarians whose recent educational and humanitarian outreach efforts reflect their commitment to providing excellent service, their keen interest in sharing their expertise, and their desire to positively impact the lives of all those we serve.

Other stories in this issue reflect the myriad ways in which the Libraries are a remarkable resource for the UB community and beyond. One such story highlights our popular Delivery+ service, which streamlines the research process by making it easy for UB students, faculty and staff to request materials from any UB library or any library in the world, regardless of location. Another story offers an overview of our membership in HathiTrust, an international community of research libraries committed to the long-term curation and accessibility of the cultural record. As a member of the HathiTrust partnership, we are helping to build a comprehensive digital archive of scholarship from around the world.

I am especially delighted that this issue introduces the University Libraries’ new strategic design. Driven by our passion for excellence, we are setting our sights on defining a clear vision for the future of the UB Libraries. Aligned with the University at Buffalo’s vision of excellence in research, teaching, learning and engagement, our strategic design focuses on the changing needs of our users. We will use it to guide our ongoing efforts in providing leadership across the entire scholarly information life cycle, from the creation of knowledge, to the dissemination and advancement of scholarship, to the curation of information.

Please enjoy our news, and thank you to all of our generous donors who support the UB Libraries in so many ways!
The Collages of Helen Adam, edited by UB special collections librarian, Alison Fraser, brings together the largest selection of visual work to date by Scottish-American poet and visual artist Helen Adam (1909-1993). The book includes 40 stand-alone collages from the San Francisco period, a reconstruction of Adam’s photograph-collages displayed at the San Francisco-based Buzz Gallery in 1964, the final state of the ballad-collage “In Harpy Land”, and selections from two collage gift books made for the poet Robert Duncan and the publisher Robert Hershon.

Fraser contributed an introductory essay to the book, which also features essays by Lewis Ellingham, Samuel Delany and Robert Hershon, as well as an introduction to the collection by James Maynard, curator of the University Libraries’ Poetry Collection, and an afterword by Kristin Prevallet, editor of A Helen Adam Reader (2007). Taken together, the selection demonstrates both the breadth and commonalities of Adam’s visual and written work, opening up new possibilities for the study and appreciation of Helen Adam.

“As both a researcher and librarian, I have come to realize that the strength and value of the Poetry Collection is not only in its materials, but also in its people,” says Fraser. “Without the forward vision of former curator Robert Bertholf, who sought Adam’s work for inclusion in the Poetry Collection, this project would not have been possible.”

Co-published by Further Other Book Works and Cuneiform Press in 2017, The Collages of Helen Adam has had celebratory launches at the Kael-Jess Murals House in Berkeley, California, and the Tibor de Nagy Gallery in New York City. It has also been featured by the Poetry Foundation and the Poetry Society of America.
The UB Libraries’ Book Club is partnering with the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library to promote “One Community, One Book,” an initiative that brings together diverse groups of people through the experience of reading the same book.

The selection for May 2018 is Ernest Hemingway’s moving and beautiful novel of love and war, A Farewell to Arms. Based on his own experiences as an ambulance driver in Italy during World War I, Hemingway’s novel captures the brutality of war and its impact on the human psyche.

To join the discussion: library.buffalo.edu/reading

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Leading the Way...

Jessica Clemons chosen for ARL leadership program

Jessica Clemons, Associate University Librarian for Research, Education and Outreach in the UB Libraries, has been selected as a participant in the 2018-2019 Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Leadership Fellows Program. She is one of 30 librarians participating in this prestigious national program which facilitates the development of future senior-level leaders in large research libraries and archives.

During the course of the 18-month program, Clemons will attend learning sessions at the fellowship’s sponsoring libraries: the University of Iowa, George Washington University and the University of Florida. She will also receive individual mentoring, participate in online workshops, attend professional conferences around the nation, and shadow senior leadership at prominent research libraries.

“Libraries are in the throes of change in the best possible way as we strategically redesign our spaces, services, partnerships and staff. I will be part of the cohort of library leaders that sees the impact of artificial intelligence, open access, globalization and more,” says Clemons. “My ambition is to be a leader that can guide research libraries through these rapid changes. I’m looking forward to attending this program so that I can share ideas from my background in university libraries and bring provocative ideas back to UB.”

“Although I have worked at UB for almost four years, I never realized the sheer size of the Libraries’ operation! Also, I now see that the Libraries’ space is more than just a place to obtain materials; it’s a place to study and collaborate as well.”

Ashley Kravitz, Business Officer, University Libraries

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UB students are busy

2017 by the numbers

53,993

Group Study Room Reservations

The University Libraries offer over 34 group study rooms for UB students in four locations on two campuses. Students use the rooms for collaborative learning, group discussions and class projects.

20,067

Research Questions Answered

UB students can ask UB Librarians research questions via chat, email, text, phone or in-person. A UB subject librarian is assigned to each academic department and school.

What We’re Reading

The UB Libraries’ Book Club is partnering with the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library to promote “One Community, One Book,” an initiative that brings together diverse groups of people through the experience of reading the same book.

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To join the discussion: library.buffalo.edu/reading
This spring, the University Libraries joined HathiTrust, a digital repository for the nation’s great research libraries that brings together the immense collections of partner institutions worldwide. HathiTrust’s mission is to digitize, preserve and increase online access to scholarly monographs, journals, government documents and other materials from the collections of research libraries and other sources, including Google and the Internet Archive.

Our partnership in HathiTrust provides UB researchers with searchable access to a corpus of over 16 million titles, including the ability to print and download the full text of over 6 million public domain and open access works. HathiTrust will also drive research innovation at UB by providing the campus with a significant new resource for conducting large scale text mining and other forms of digital scholarship, especially in the humanities and social sciences.

Pavilion under the Willow. From Wan He Qiu Shan: Collection of the Landscape Paintings of I-Pong Van.

I-Pong Van The UB Libraries are the very fortunate recipient of a gift of spectacular art books from Chinese artist, I-Pong Van (1917-1994). The scope of I-Pong Van’s artwork ranges from beautiful landscape and floral paintings to images depicting intricate bamboo carvings to elegant calligraphy. Donated by the artist’s family, these books were hand-delivered by his grandson Rich, who is currently a civil, structural and environmental engineering student at UB. The Libraries are privileged to be among a very small and elite number of libraries across the world that have copies of these volumes.

Ceremonial Mace

Designed to tell the story of the University at Buffalo and the Niagara Frontier, the UB mace was created by silversmith Hudson Roysher of Arcadia, California. The mace was used for the first time in the University’s 1962 general commencement and continues to be used for UB graduations to this day.

HathiTrust

International partnership community
Shaping Our Future

University Libraries Strategic Design | 2017–2020

The University Libraries embrace the opportunity to advance the research, learning, teaching and outreach missions of the University at Buffalo, a premier, research-intensive public university dedicated to academic excellence. Our 2017-2020 Strategic Design presents a clear vision for the Libraries’ future, outlines new and different conceptions around the discovery and delivery of information, and identifies key areas where new investments are needed in order to meet the changing scholarly and learning needs of the communities we serve.

As a framework designed to guide the Libraries’ priorities and practices for the next three years, our strategic design enables us to place the scholar at the center of our activities, help faculty increase their research productivity and research impact, help students discover and create new knowledge, and help our community members pursue intellectual and creative inquiry.

Both practical and inspirational, the University Libraries 2017-2020 Strategic Design is a continuation of the University Libraries’ proud history and indicative of our bold aspirations for the future. With this plan in place, we join the University in its commitment to creating visionary solutions to our society’s greatest challenges.
Vision
The University Libraries are a premier academic research library that advances intellectual discovery by connecting people with knowledge.

Mission
We provide outstanding resources, experts, services and spaces to enrich the research, learning, teaching and creative activities of our faculty, students and staff as well as those of the local and global community members we serve.

Values
- excellent service
- collaboration, innovation and creativity
- inclusiveness and respect for the individual
- accountability for our actions and decisions
- ongoing, open communications

Key Goals

Scholarly Information Life Cycle
Heighten UB Libraries’ position as a vital campus partner in the discovery, production and dissemination of world-changing research and knowledge.

Educational Experience
Enhance our impact on academic excellence and student success by providing expansive collections, research expertise and inspiring spaces.

Technology & Digital Infrastructure
Secure our role as early adopters of emerging technologies in research, teaching and learning.

Strategic Partnerships
Establish UB Libraries as a primary destination and collaborative partner in the cultural, historical and academic endeavors of the Western New York community and beyond.
Librarians Cindi Tysick (center, above right) and Nicole Thomas (left) work with students and faculty at Bawaleshie Primary School and Okumpainen Secondary School in Ghana.
Global Impact

UB librarians are passionate about helping others. That passion has inspired several members of the Libraries’ staff to assist communities facing educational and humanitarian challenges in a variety of locations around the globe. From a small village in Ghana, to hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico, to a bustling campus in Singapore, our librarians are extending their outreach efforts and making a positive impact on the global community.

When Dorothy Siaw-Asamoah, UB School of Management clinical assistant professor, needed an educational technology expert to join one of her annual missions to Ghana for HOSIKIDS, a non-profit organization dedicated to bridging the global technology gap, she turned to associate librarian Cindi Tysick, head of the UB Libraries’ Educational Services Team. Siaw-Asamoah, a native of Ghana, organizes annual trips to Ghana aimed at improving access to quality education and healthcare for children living in the West African nation. She knew that Tysick’s educational technology skills and online learning expertise could help make a difference in the lives of students and teachers in Ghana.

In July 2017, Tysick traveled to Ghana with Siaw-Asamoah’s group of volunteers. While there, she presented workshops for librarians at the University of Cape Coast and Accra Business School, sharing best practices for developing grant-funded projects, discussing open educational resources, and helping the Ghanaian librarians refine project ideas, develop needs assessments and plan budgets.

“My experiences in Ghana were a vivid reminder of the fact that many people in developing countries don’t have the luxury of time because they’re busy simply surviving,” says Tysick. “Since technology drives everything we do, and is such an important part of our survival and our success, it’s hard to understand how people can live without it.”

Returning to UB, Tysick shared a message with her library colleagues: “You can make a tremendous difference.” Her words resonated with senior assistant librarian, Nicole Thomas, a member of the Libraries’ Educational Services Team. When Thomas learned that Tysick was planning a return visit to Ghana with Siaw-Asamoah’s student volunteers in January 2018, she was eager to join the group.

Arriving in Ghana, the two librarians traveled to a small village located about an hour’s drive outside Accra where they worked with teachers and students at a primary school supported by the HOSIKIDS Foundation. The 500+ students enrolled in the school outnumber the resources that the school can provide, so the students have to share books, basic supplies and a few donated laptops. Thomas and Tysick spent several days at the school, presenting workshops, holding discussion sessions, and introducing the teachers to open access curriculum materials. “There are many opportunities for us to build bridges,” says Thomas. “The teachers and students I worked with in Ghana really appreciated our help. I’m definitely interested in returning to Ghana, perhaps next year, to continue the work there.”

CONTINUED
Hurricane Maria, one of the most intense Atlantic hurricanes on record, made landfall in Puerto Rico on September 20, 2017, causing widespread damage to the island’s infrastructure. Months after the disaster, thousands of residents were still living without electricity and running water, their homes damaged or destroyed. Struggling to survive, many also found themselves in need of legal assistance when filing insurance claims and applying for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Brian Detweiler, student services librarian at UB’s Charles B. Sears Law Library, traveled to Puerto Rico in January 2018, joining a group of student attorneys from the UB School of Law’s Puerto Rico Recovery Assistance Legal Clinic for a unique service learning experience that Detweiler describes as “the highlight of my library career.” Detweiler, who is both a librarian and a licensed attorney, assisted the students with legal research, supporting their efforts to help residents secure the resources needed to recover from the hurricane’s devastating effects.

“Brian’s participation in the Puerto Rico Recovery Assistance Legal Clinic unquestionably contributed to our success,” says UB law professor, Kim Diana Connolly, vice dean for experiential learning and director of clinical legal education. “Brian provided not only needed research support, but he also enthusiastically joined several legal and humanitarian brigade teams!”

During his stay in Puerto Rico, Detweiler worked with the legal brigade, helping hurricane survivors file FEMA appeals, researching issues related to the appeals, and contacting the FEMA Help Line on residents’ behalf. As part of the group’s humanitarian assistance, he traveled with the students to isolated rural communities in remote parts of the island, delivering solar lamps, cell phone chargers and other critical supplies to people in need.

When the group reconvened in San Juan each evening, Detweiler provided intensive, in-person research assistance to help the students prepare for the next day’s outreach endeavors. “I’m proud to be part of this amazing group supporting the work of faculty and students as a librarian,” says Detweiler, “and working with them to help our fellow citizens rebuild their homes and their lives.”
“I’ve always been an intrepid traveler, and I welcome opportunities to explore new places,” says librarian Chris Hollister. When his daughter, Jessica, spent a semester at Korea University in 2012, Hollister reached out to a colleague in Korea, and was invited to give a presentation for students and faculty in the library school program at Seoul’s Sookmyung Women’s University.

“That experience further opened the door for me in terms of recognizing the opportunities that exist for combining overseas travel with what we do on a daily basis in the UB Libraries,” says Hollister, the UB Libraries’ liaison to UB’s Graduate School of Education and Asian Studies Program. Returning from Korea, he reached out to UB’s Office of International Education to ask if there was anything he could do in his capacity as a librarian to assist with their work overseas.

An ideal opportunity presented itself in 2014 when Hollister traveled to the Singapore Institute of Management (SIM), one of UB’s partner universities, to conduct a review of library operations on the SIM campus as part of a Middle States accreditation process. At SIM, he spent several days meeting with and interviewing library staff, receiving an overview of the UB programs offered there, and conducting focus groups with students enrolled in the UB/SIM programs.

One of the things Hollister discovered at SIM was the fact that the cost of course textbooks is a huge concern for many of the students. “I was able to see first-hand that commercial publishers of course textbooks really exploit the international market,” he recalls. Returning to Singapore in March 2018, Hollister introduced a collaborative partnership with SIM designed to mitigate the costs of course textbooks. “Since the launch of our programs in Singapore in 2004, our office has appreciated the strong support of the Libraries in ensuring that we’ve had robust library support for our programs,” notes John J. Wood, UB senior associate vice provost for international education. “Recognizing the challenge of US textbook provision in Singapore, Chris Hollister has led the Libraries’ effort to identify and provide e-textbooks for our courses at SIM. I applaud this latest instance of the Libraries’ continuing efforts to work with the departments and our office to strengthen our overseas programs.”
Requests Fulfilled

In the last five years, the University Libraries’ Delivery+ has filled over 326,000 requests for faculty, staff and students.

Electronic Deliveries

With digital items in high demand, the Libraries have electronically delivered 186,000+ articles and chapters over the last five years.

Increasing

Electronic deliveries of book chapters and articles have increased an average of 12% over the last five years.
Six years ago, responding to the changing needs of the University at Buffalo’s scholarly community, the UB Libraries launched Delivery+, an enhanced document delivery service designed to provide our faculty, staff and students with a fast and expedient conduit to information. Available to all members of the UB community, Delivery+ saves UB scholars valuable time and enables them to conduct research more efficiently.

Fast forward to 2018, and it’s not surprising that Delivery+ has a robust number of users who regularly log into the popular service to request everything from full-length books to journal and newspaper articles to DVDs. Any book, article, book chapter or media item can be requested via a few quick keyboard clicks. On average, digital and scanned items are conveniently delivered within 48 hours to a UB email account. Print volumes and media items are held ready and waiting at the user’s UB library of choice. A real “plus” appreciated by faculty and staff is the option of having print materials delivered directly to their departmental mailbox.

“Finding the right manuscripts at the right moment is a key to researchers working on various projects. Without Delivery+, it would have been impossible for me to do so within the given time frame. Just great!” says Young Sik Seo, a doctoral student in the UB Graduate School of Education.

Another “plus” of the service is the fact that researchers and students can use Delivery+ even when they are not on campus. Brittany Kenyon, a PhD candidate and director of UB’s Comparative Primate Anatomy Laboratory, Department of Anthropology, is a big fan of the service. “I am quickly able to request specific (sometimes obscure) references and have a PDF delivered to my email within a day or two. This makes working off campus much easier, and allows me to complete my work much faster than I would be able to otherwise.”

There’s no limit to where we’ll go to fulfill users’ requests. From New Zealand to China to Finland, since its inception our Delivery+ service has borrowed library materials from over 18 countries and loaned items to more than 36 countries worldwide.

The popularity of the service has increased steadily. In 2017 alone, the Libraries electronically delivered over 65,000 articles and book chapters to our users. Our Delivery+ service has successfully fulfilled over 326,000 requests for satisfied faculty, staff and students, including Ernie Wang, a PhD student in the UB School of Management. “I think the service is awesome! The response is so quick. Thanks for the excellent work!”

Learn more at library.buffalo.edu/delivery

When I am in an archive, I am often surrounded by documents as I try to see how the pieces fit together. Delivery+ creates a similar space for me where I can quickly draw connections among texts as I read.”

Despina Stratigakos
Professor, department of architecture and interim vice provost for inclusive excellence
The UB Music Library has received a $34,136 grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) as part of its Recordings at Risk program to support the project, “Reel to Reel Tape Recordings of the Creative Associates Recitals at the University at Buffalo, 1964-1980.” This project will digitally reformat 173 reel-to-reel tapes containing nearly 120 hours of live performances of more than 600 musical works performed by the UB Creative Associates, a group of highly-skilled performers and composers who served as fellows of UB’s Center of the Creative and Performing Arts during the period 1964-1980. The Center supported the creation, performance and study of new music at the highest levels of expertise, and the Creative Associates’ recitals featured eclectic programming designed by the Associates themselves that ranged from music of the Baroque to newly-composed music.

Preservation of the recordings, which are at high risk of loss through degradation, will provide access to a unique collection of great scholarly value. The Music Library will work with the Northeast Document Conservation Center to reformat the tapes.

Creative Associate composers whose works were performed on the recitals include Michael Sahl, Sylvano Bussotti, Frederic Rzewski, Cornelius Cardew and Terry Riley, as well as Pulitzer Prize winners George Crumb and David Del Tredici. The list of talented performers represented on the recitals includes Jan Williams, Sylvia Brigham Dimiziani, Petr Kotik, Charles Haupt, Stuart Dempster, Robert Dick and Mark Sokol.

The tapes also contain more than a dozen recordings of performances by Julius Eastman and two recordings of compositions by Eastman, who has only recently regained deserved recognition as a major figure in the development of minimalist music. Because neither of these compositions is represented among the Eastman compositions for which scores survive, these recordings are the only remaining documentation of these compositions. Following completion of the project, the digitally reformatted audio will be available in the Music Library, adding to the library’s rich array of materials documenting the history of UB’s Center of the Creative and Performing Arts, the Creative Associates, and contemporary music of the period.

**Recordings at Risk**

*Music Library receives grant to preserve unique musical recordings*

The Creative Associate Recitals represent the last major component that needs to be preserved to document the fullest possible history of the Center of the Creative and Performing Arts and what it represents for the history of new music at the University at Buffalo and in Buffalo as a whole.”

John Bewley, PhD
Music Librarian & Archivist, UB Music Library
I’m thankful

Always there when I need help!

Born in Buffalo, raised in Brooklyn, now back in Buffalo.

For Nancy Zheng, returning to her hometown to pursue her education seemed like the natural thing to do. Now in the home stretch and on her way to graduating with a master’s degree in social work this spring, Nancy is grateful for the help she’s received from the Libraries along the way.

“My course work requires a lot of high level research and I remember vividly my first attempt at compiling a literature review. I received tremendous help from the 24-hour instant librarian with narrowing down my topic areas. I also utilized Delivery+, one of my favorite library services. With Delivery+ I was able to get my articles scanned and receive chapter readings to get a head start on weekly readings. It’s great to know that the Libraries are always there to get me what I need.”

Congratulations and best of luck, Nancy!

Your generosity affirms the vital role the UB Libraries play in learning, discovery and service to society. library.buffalo.edu/support
Flashback

The first Dean of Women, Lillias McDonald, helped to establish a physical education program for women at UB which included the Women’s Athletic Association (WAA). Approximately 200 women attended the University in 1922. The WAA, run by a student governing council, developed a foundation for UB women’s athletics that "would be strong enough to stand the test of time" (1923 Iris yearbook).