

UB Libraries *Today*

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James Joyce Museum

UB receives \$10 million in New York State funding for construction of a James Joyce Museum

UB Libraries Today is published by the University at Buffalo Libraries for alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends.

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Photo of Alison Fraser, associate curator of the UB Libraries Poetry Collection and coordinator of the Rare & Special Books Collection; New York State Senator Tim Kennedy; and James Maynard, curator of the UB Libraries Poetry Collection and coordinator of the Rare & Special Books Collection. Photo: Doug Levere

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Your generosity affirms the vital role the UB Libraries play in learning and discovery. To give to the University Libraries, please visit: library.buffalo.edu/support.

DO YOU KNOW?



This plaque was presented on November 15, 1979 at the dedication of the Mildred Blake Center on UB's North Campus. The Blake Center once included a selection of books from the Browsing Library located in the former Norton Student Union which is now Squire Hall.

from **EVVIVA**

Greetings!

Another academic year has begun, and with it comes new beginnings, fresh perspectives and boundless opportunities to inspire intellectual curiosity and collaboration.

In this issue of *UB Libraries Today*, we share the exciting news that the University at Buffalo has received generous funding from New York State for the creation of a James Joyce Museum – a permanent exhibition space on UB's historic South Campus that will attract visitors and visibility to our renowned Joyce Collection. This unprecedented support for UB Libraries brings our vision for a vibrant, international destination where a wide and inclusive audience can discover the literary life and works of James Joyce closer to fruition.

You'll read about Jake Carlson, our newly appointed associate university librarian for research, collections and outreach. With his expansive expertise in sharing, managing and preserving research data along with his collaborative leadership style and dedication to excellence, Jake is an outstanding addition to UB Libraries.

In this issue, you'll learn about some of our outreach activities, and we'll take a moment to highlight the accomplishments of our extraordinary librarians. From receiving a prestigious SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship, to sharing digital learning techniques with schools in Uganda through a Fulbright Award, to educating mothers in the Buffalo community about Black maternal health, our librarians strive to share their knowledge and expertise within and beyond UB.

To increase awareness about censorship and to underscore the importance of intellectual freedom, the Libraries sponsored a book talk with a UB Department of Sociology faculty member in celebration of Banned Books Week. This student-lead discussion exposed participants to differing views, giving them an opportunity to share their perspectives on social justice, the free access to information, and rising attempts to ban books in the United States.

Within these pages you will learn how we have continued to update library spaces, creating vibrant and contemporary learning environments that cater to the evolving needs of modern learners. With an eye to the future, the steady transformation of our physical spaces will establish UB Libraries as a dynamic hub of learning and research for years to come.

Moving into the new year, I am excited and filled with anticipation as we continue fulfilling our mission as the flagship library of the SUNY system to support and enrich the three pillars of the public higher education – research, education and service while embarking on a journey of continued discovery, growth and achievement.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season!

Evviva Weinraub Lajoie, Vice Provost for University Libraries





JULIE PAWLOCK

WELCOME!

Jake Carlson

Fostering Collaboration and Advancing Academic Priorities for the Libraries

Jake Carlson has been named associate university librarian for research, collections and outreach for UB Libraries. In this role, he will provide leadership for instruction services, innovative pedagogy, liaison and outreach services and collection management within the Libraries.

“I’m thrilled to join UB Libraries at such an exciting time,” says Carlson. “As UB pursues its initiative to become one of the top 25 public research institutions in the country, I see a push for bigger and bolder research projects and an emphasis on student success. My professional career and research has been focused on the application of library science to help researchers manage and share research data in ways that meet the requirements of funding agencies and publishers and increase their professional reputation.”

Carlson recognizes the importance of sharing data in research. “The challenge will be to understand how the information needs of our students, staff and faculty are evolving, and then to continually recenter our services to ensure that we are meeting their needs now and into the future,” explains Carlson.

Carlson comes to UB Libraries from the University of Michigan Library, where he served as the director of Deep Blue Repository and Research Data Services. He received his Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh, earned a Master of Arts in East Asian Studies from Washington University in St. Louis, and a Bachelor of Arts in Government/East Asian studies from Clark University.

“Though I have only been here for a few months, I’ve been thoroughly impressed with the passion and creativity that our librarians and staff bring to their work, particularly in response to new opportunities. The future looks very bright for UB Libraries!”



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Celebrating Excellence

Nell Aronoff, librarian and liaison to UB's Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, is the recipient of the 2023 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship. This award recognizes superior professional achievement in the field of librarianship and outstanding service to the university and the profession.

Aronoff, who joined UB in 2013, has become part of the medical school's fabric. She has provided critical insight and knowledge to faculty, staff and students at the Jacobs School, leading to inclusion in task forces related to the medical school's curriculum redesign. She has also held numerous roles in the Medical Library Association and the Upstate New York and Ontario Chapter of the Medical Library Association.

Congratulations, Nell!



Directors and leaders from 12 Ugandan, non-profit organizations met at the U.S. Embassy's American Center to participate in a three-day program, organized and delivered by Cynthia Tysick, to increase capacity to use technology and social media in their humanitarian work.

UB Librarian Receives Fulbright Specialist Award

Cynthia Tysick, innovative pedagogy and creative spaces librarian for UB Libraries, has received the Fulbright Specialist Program Award. Tysick traveled to Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) where she spent six weeks training academic staff in digital pedagogy skills.

"It was the most humbling, amazing experience of my life. I was honored to guide an incredibly talented and dedicated group of professors through the playful process of identifying and implementing pedagogically relevant digital tools to their teaching and research," said Tysick.

Tysick introduced digital learning materials and instructional approaches designed to bring out the best in learners by equipping the UMU faculty with the knowledge and skills needed to develop and produce interactive multimedia content suitable through text, video, audio, graphics, animations and relevant virtual reality.

The Fulbright Specialist Program offers a unique opportunity for highly qualified U.S. academics to engage in short-term, project-based exchanges at host institutions across the globe, based on their knowledge, skill sets and ability to make a significant contribution to projects overseas.



Uzazi: Let's Talk About Black Maternal Health

The University Libraries recently received a national funding award from the Network of the National Library Medicine of All of Us Program Center for the project, "Uzazi: Let's Talk About Black Maternal Health."

In collaboration with the Erie Niagara Area Health Education Center Birth Equity Project, UB Libraries implemented three community events: a webinar, a documentary film screening and

a community unconference—all designed to increase awareness and provide education about health disparities and inequities related to Black maternal health.

"This project was rewarding because it highlighted the importance of addressing the disparities in Black maternal health," says Ophelia Morey, associate librarian and project lead. "It showcased how librarians can be valuable partners in educating and engaging with communities both on and off campus."



JULIE PAVLOCK

Celebrating the Freedom to Read



Jared Strohl

A lively and engaging book talk on the frequently banned and challenged novel, *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas was one of the highlights for this year's Banned Books Week, an annual event celebrating the freedom to read.

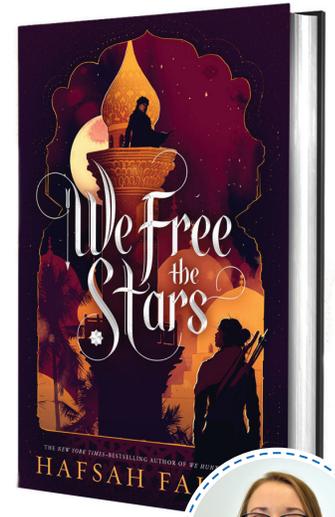
The Libraries partnered with Jared Strohl, teaching assistant professor in UB's Department of Sociology for this event. Strohl and his teaching assistants lead a book talk exploring the book's themes of social justice, racism, activism, police violence and identity. "I could see how many students resonated with the book, and I think it is partially because the main character, Starr, is a student. This allowed students to empathize with Starr, regardless of their racial identity," observes Strohl.

The Hate U Give made the American Library Association's list of the Top Ten Most Challenged Books when it was published in 2017. "This makes the book a powerful resource for teachers to push students from all backgrounds to reflect on the realities of structural racism," Strohl continues. "So, it's unfortunate, and also

ironic, that this book is banned in certain school districts."

"We wanted to transform the way readers discuss and reflect on polarizing texts like *The Hate U Give*," says Sam Duponte, a sociology major who spoke on behalf of the teaching assistants who, along with him, facilitated the book talk. "By sharing our relevant personal experiences and implementing our sociological expertise and passion, we were able to spark a moving discussion that brought a diverse group of thinkers together to deeply reflect on Angie Thomas's work."

According to Laura Taddeo, head of arts, humanities and social sciences in the UB Libraries, banned books should be celebrated year-round. "Banned Books Week is an opportunity for coordinated national awareness, but we should always be supporting banned books and encouraging access to information by drawing attention to threats against the right to read."



What We're Reading

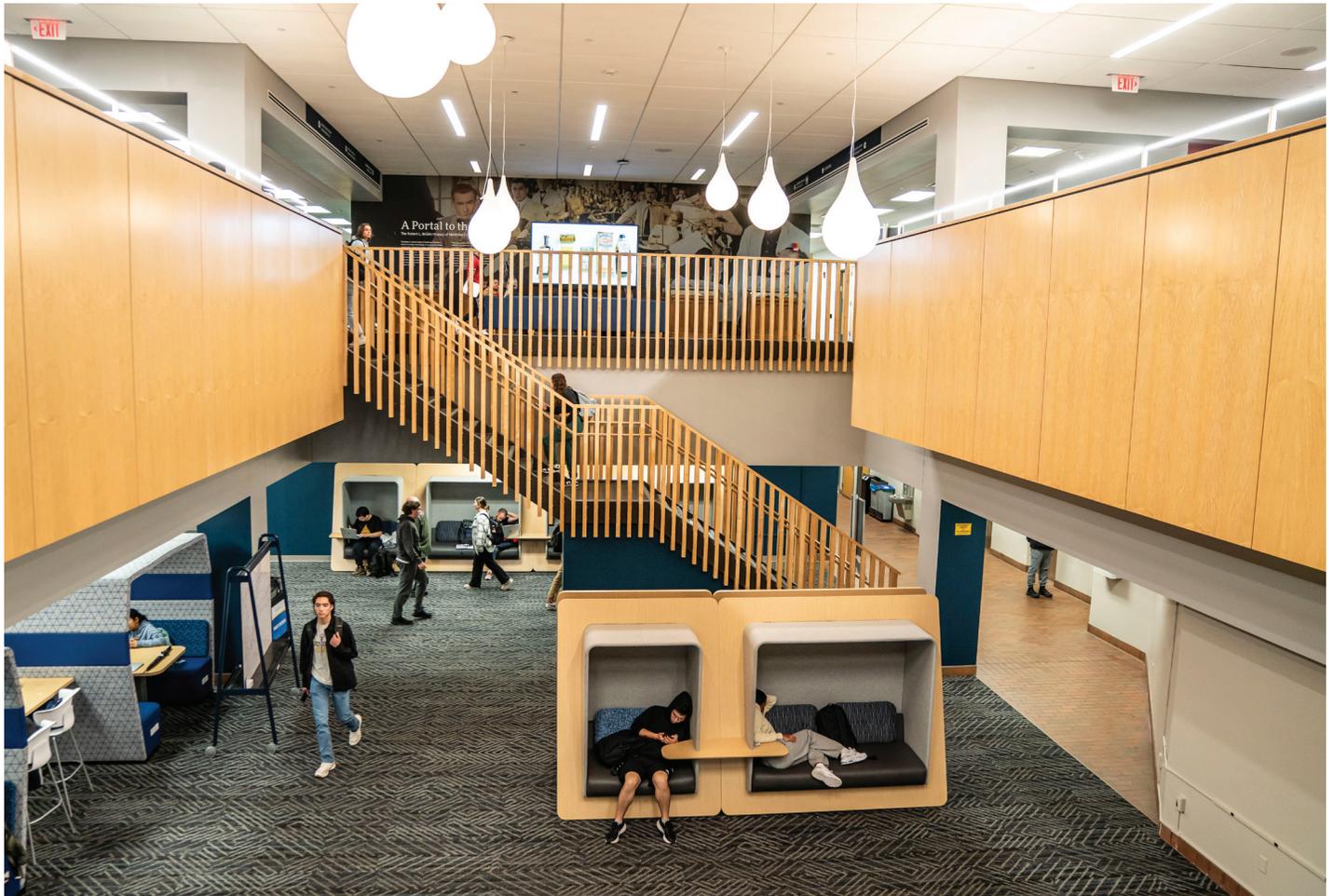
We Free the Stars, the second book in the *Sands of Arawiya* duology, centers on Zafira bint Iskandar's quest to return magic to her land, Arawiya. On her journey to heal the world, Zafira uncovers the true reason behind the loss of magic and the disappearance of the Sisters of Old and their wisdom. Finding the Jawarat, the great book of magic, she binds herself to it in an attempt to use its knowledge to save her people. But the book may have a mind of its own, and it is uncertain who shall wield control in this partnership.

Faizal's descriptions of Arawiya leap from the page with details so rich that the reader can see the land take shape in the mind's eye. Her characters are lovingly drawn with nuance and grace, making it easier to become invested in their entanglements. The clever quips spoken among the members of the *zumra*, Zafira's cohort on her quest, are well worth the read.

Rebecca Chapman

Undergraduate Law and Indigenous Outreach Librarian

LIBRARY SPACES



JULIE PAVLOCK

Next-Level Library

A Modern Space for Learning, Collaboration and Student Success

The shift was subtle, but as the fall semester began it was noticeable that more and more students had progressively found their way to the newly refreshed second floor of the Oscar A. Silverman Library. Once sparsely occupied, this updated space is now consistently filled with students, occupying every seat available throughout the day.

Earlier in the year Silverman 2 had been gradually undergoing updates of new furniture, paint and carpeting—a critical endeavor in enhancing the overall learning environment to ensure that the library remained a central hub for students. Gone are the traditional, rigid

wooden tables and uncomfortable chairs recalling typical library spaces of the past. In their place are diverse seating arrangements, including lounge chairs, height-adjustable desks, study pods and individual study areas offering students a range of choices to suit their study preferences. This flexibility encourages both individual and group work, fostering a more inclusive and adaptable learning environment.

“We designed Silverman 2 with a futuristic tech theme—a retro vibe that complements the building. We kept a heads-down study space in the back, added



“The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.”

– Albert Einstein



more sound absorbing materials to the space overall, and installed group seating near the front. The furniture along the walls evokes a sense of cozy space for patrons as well—a spot for a student to center and block out the hectic pace of the day,” says Marnie Mancuso, facilities planning and management officer for UB Libraries.

Other enhancements include carpeting, an often underestimated but crucial element in library updates. Replacing worn-out carpets significantly improved acoustics and comfort, dampened sound and reduced noise levels. This is especially important in a space where quiet study and research are essential. Fresh paint and modern color schemes are equally important. The library’s aesthetic plays a crucial role in creating a positive and inviting atmosphere. Vibrant hues breathe new life into a previously dull space.

The benefits of these updates extend beyond aesthetics. The improved design and comfort in Silverman Library encourage collaboration and productivity. Students find it easier to work on group projects, engage in discussions and immerse themselves in their studies. Moreover, these updates signal UB Libraries’ commitment to creating a modern and inclusive educational environment, showcasing a dedication to providing students with the resources and spaces needed to succeed in an ever-evolving academic landscape.



STORY BY BERT GAMBINI

A Home Worthy of Its Renown

UB Libraries Secure \$10 Million in State Funding for UB James Joyce Museum

The UB Libraries, home to the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of materials by and related to novelist and poet James Joyce, has received \$10 million in funding from New York State for the construction of the UB James Joyce Museum.

The facility aims to attract a broad global audience to discover and experience the achievements of the renowned Irish author, widely recognized as the most influential literary figure of the 20th century.

The funding, a capital-project priority for UB, was secured through the advocacy of New York State Senator Tim Kennedy and with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul. It was announced June 16 at a news conference in the Austin Flint Main Reading Room on the second floor of Abbott Library on the South Campus.

"Moving our magnificent James Joyce Collection to a home worthy of its renown has been a key goal for our scholarly environment, and doing so reaffirms the significance of this distinctive scholarly gem to our university, our broader community in Buffalo and Western New York, and our friends and colleagues around the world," said President Satish K. Tripathi.

Kennedy, whose district includes UB's South Campus, has been a longtime supporter of the university's Joyce Collection, bringing leading representatives of the Irish government to

visit, along with distinguished members of the Irish-American diaspora. The collection highlights Buffalo's rich Irish-American legacy.

"This funding is transformational for the preservation of Irish heritage here in Buffalo and all of New York State, and will allow the University at Buffalo's extensive collection of James Joyce's work to be truly celebrated," Kennedy said. "I've fought for this state investment for years because I firmly believe the UB James Joyce Museum will attract visitors from around the world, and further strengthen the relationship between the United States and Ireland.

"This is an example of true collaboration, and it would not have been possible without the partnership of UB President Satish K. Tripathi, James Maynard and



DOUGLAS LEVERE





New York State Sen. Tim Kennedy speaks during the press conference announcing state funding for the UB James Joyce Museum. At Kennedy's far right are Bonnie Kane Lockwood, WNY regional director for Gov. Kathy Hochul and UB President Satish K. Tripathi. At Kennedy's left are Dermot Fitzpatrick, vice consul general of Ireland in New York; Ewiva Weinraub Lajoie, vice provost for university libraries; and James Maynard, UB Libraries Poetry Collection curator. Photo: Meredith Forrest Kulwicki



Sylvia Beach and James Joyce in Shakespeare and Company, Paris, ca. 1926. Photographer unknown.

the incredible team at UB,” Kennedy said. “I’m thrilled to be able to deliver this funding alongside Governor Hochul and look forward to seeing this museum open its doors.”

The announcement arrived on Bloomsday, the annual commemoration of Joyce’s life and career, named for Leopold Bloom, the main character in Joyce’s masterpiece, *Ulysses*, perhaps the most important English-language novel of the past 100 years, with a plot that takes place on a single day, June 16, 1904, in and around Dublin, Ireland.

UB’s James Joyce Collection, housed within the UB Libraries’ Poetry Collection on the North Campus, is an unparalleled destination for scholars and visitors from around the world. The UB James Joyce Museum will increase that visibility and expand public access to the university’s historical resources and literary treasures with a permanent exhibition space for visitors to study, learn and engage with these rare materials.

“On behalf of our entire university community, I would like to thank Sen. Tim Kennedy for his enduring support of UB and our mission of excellence. I would also like to extend my gratitude to Gov. Hochul for her commitment to amplify our impact as New York State’s flagship university,” Tripathi added.

Since the arrival of the first archival pieces in 1950, UB’s James Joyce Collection has grown to include more



James Joyce with Ezra Pound, John Quinn and Ford Madox Ford, Paris, ca. 1923. Photographer unknown.

than 10,000 pages of Joyce's working papers, notebooks, manuscripts, photographs, correspondence, portraits, publishing records, ephemera, and personal artifacts, as well as Joyce's Paris library and the complete body of significant Joyce criticism.

"We're thrilled that we can move forward with a permanent exhibition space for the UB James Joyce Collection," said Evviva Weinraub Lajoie, vice provost for UB Libraries. "This funding will enable us to present these resources in ways that have an even greater impact on local, national and international communities curious about the literary arts and the work of James Joyce."

Under the guidance of Kelly Hayes McAlonie, director of campus planning, UB Libraries have been preparing to begin work on a design consultation that includes dedicating roughly 5,000 square feet of the first-floor atrium in Abbott Library as exhibition space for the museum.

"Since its inception more than 85 years ago, UB has served as the library of record for 20th- and 21st-century Anglophone poetry," said Maynard, curator of the Poetry Collection and coordinator of the Rare and Special Books Collection. "This new state funding ensures the vibrancy of the UB James Joyce Collection and gives us an opportunity to now enthusiastically extend a global invitation to experience the life and works of Ireland's James Joyce in what will be the UB James Joyce Museum."

The museum is expected to draw thousands of visitors annually as an international destination and cultural landmark.

"We are delighted to welcome this news, which helps ensure UB's world-class James Joyce Collection will be seen by as many people as possible," said Helena Nolan, consul general of Ireland in New York. "In 2021, the Irish government supported the creation of a James Joyce mural in downtown Buffalo to increase the visibility of the UB James Joyce Collection. We thank Governor Hochul and Senator Kennedy for their leadership and look forward to continue our work with them on ensuring that this collection is open to the world from its new home at UB."

Support the UB James Joyce Museum

To make a donation, please visit:

library.buffalo.edu/jamesjoyce/support
and select James Joyce Museum Fund.



The University Libraries are also seeking endowment funding for a James Joyce Curator position, preservation and acquisitions, programming and exhibitions, and general maintenance. For more information, contact Beth Slater, director of advancement, eslater@buffalo.edu or 716-881-7485.



James Joyce playing guitar, Zurich, 1915. Photograph by Ottocaro Weiss.



James Joyce with Nora and Mounse Gilbert. Photographer unknown.

The Buffalonian

UB's Long-Running Yearbook is Now Available Online



The Buffalonian

The inaugural issue of the *Buffalonian* appeared in 1934. It was on February 26, 1934, that Norton Union opened, and the title page for the first issue of the *Buffalonian* proudly states "Published by the Associated Students of the University of Buffalo at Norton Hall on the University Campus."

Browse the collection:
library.buffalo.edu/buffalonian

“Deep rumblings in the corridors of Hayes Hall announced the arrival of *The Buffalonian*,” the editorial staff wrote in 1934 in the pages of the reimagined yearbook they had proudly compiled for UB.

UB Libraries are pleased to announce that the entire 67-year publication run of *The Buffalonian* is now available online.

This latest addition to the libraries' digital collections provides visitors with its share of sentimental reminders of the past, while also serving in a much broader sense as a comprehensive historical take on the university from the perspective of its students through seven decades of the 20th century.

"This is a great example for how University Archives can provide a resource that reaches beyond campus and community to impact populations outside of Western New York," says Hope Dunbar, university archivist. "It puts primary source material that is text searchable in the hands of people who need that information, wherever they may be."

The Buffalonian's history begins with the demise of its predecessor, the *Iris*, which has been available online since June 2019. The *Iris* ceased publication in 1932. UB had no yearbook in 1933, and initial news of an *Iris* successor inspired few subscriptions until the staff of the proposed *Buffalonian* began an intense promotional campaign, complete with an aerial advertising flight over campus. Those efforts eventually resulted in 300 people

reserving copies, launching a publication run that continued until 2001.

The yearbooks will always offer some measure of nostalgia, but, upon closer examination, they also become useful instruments that provide unexpected insights. "I'm always surprised at the ways researchers use primary sources," says Dunbar. "We can determine physical locations, see how things once existed or find people in places. They are a great record of events, but there is so much more."

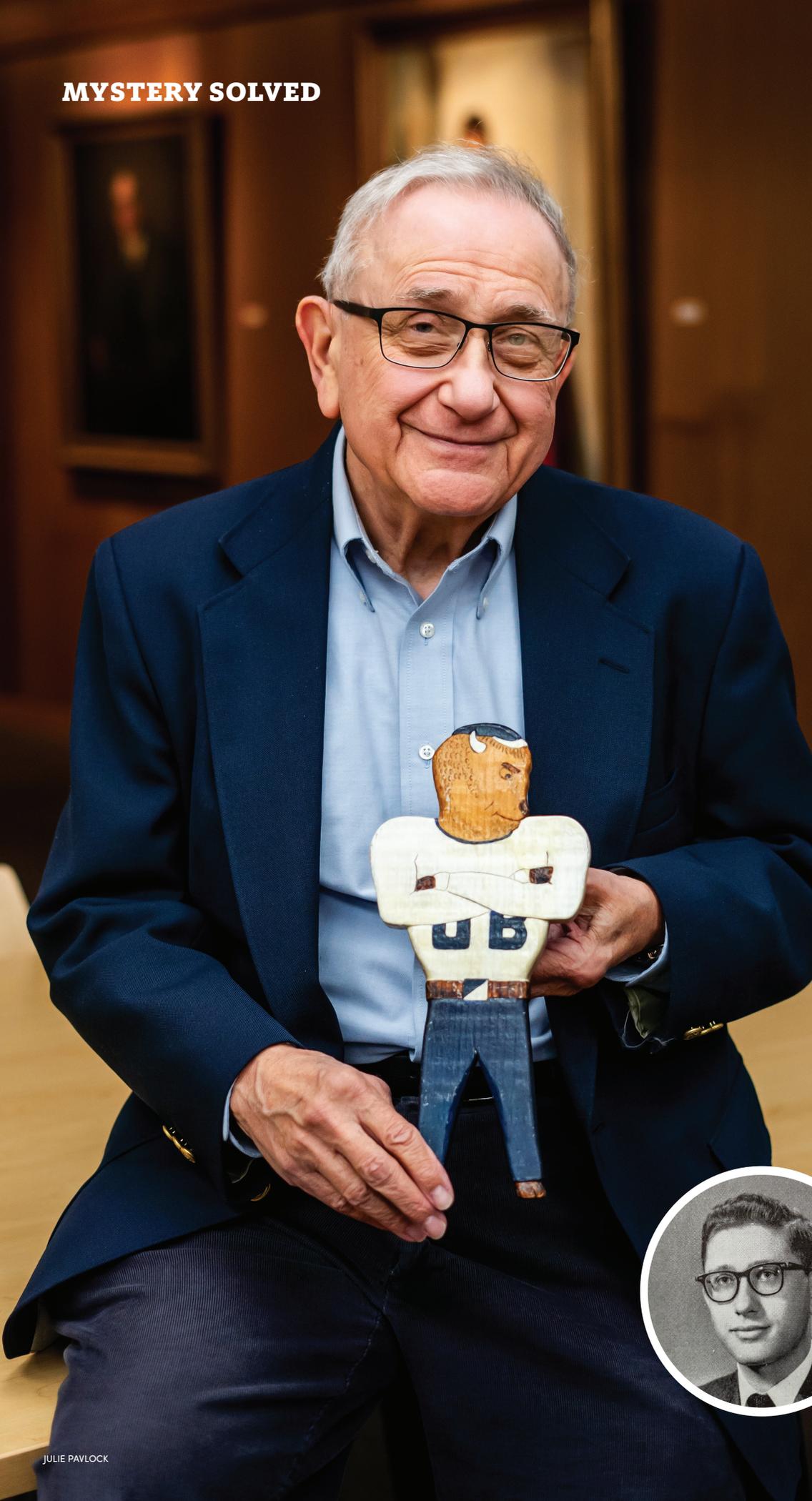
There is also a certain security that accompanies a digitized collection. Physical materials are subject to deterioration, but a digital collection provides durability.

"As archivists we're always thinking about longevity and stewardship," says Dunbar. "We're the beneficiaries of efforts by earlier archivists who preserved the materials we work with today."

The Buffalonian published its final edition in 2001 when the scope of the growing university made it impossible to capture UB's annual identity in a single volume.



Theta Chi Sorority members building "La Mer," a snow sculpture for Winter Carnival, February 1960.



Unexpected Reunion

From Scavenger Hunt to Timeless Reunion

Little did Robert Sugarman know that the carved bull he created in 1960 for a UB scavenger hunt would reappear in his life over 50 years later. In the Spring 2023 issue of *UB Librarians Today*, we featured a photo of a wooden mascot and wanted to learn more about it.

Sugarman recognized the carved wooden bull immediately. "It had to be in fall of 1960. I joined the Freshman Orientation Week Committee, and we were given freedom to think up activities for the freshmen for that week. I proposed a treasure hunt to encourage incoming students to explore the campus," he said.

"During that summer I carved, wood-burned, and painted that piece of wood, copying the image of the UB mascot from a campus publication. I hid the bull in a fire hose cabinet on the fourth floor of the physics building – my home away from home. I wrote a new clue that was published each day. Alas, I was a better craftsman than a clue writer. No one found the mascot."

Perhaps no one found it then, but it certainly found its way back to you!



Robert Sugarman, PhD, is a native of Western New York and among his many achievements, earned a BA in physics in 1961, and a PhD in experimental psychology in 1967 from the University at Buffalo.

New Acquisition Joins the Poetry Collection's
Robert Graves Collection

Robert Graves Bust



In July 2023 the Poetry Collection acquired a 1974 bronze bust of English poet and prose writer Robert Graves (1895-1985) made by the sculptor Carmen Álvarez Feldman (1935-2020). Born in Santurce, Puerto Rico, Álvarez Feldman studied in Puerto Rico, Buffalo and Paris, with works represented in collections in Puerto Rico, the United States, Spain, France and Mexico. Prior to becoming an artist, she worked to recruit Puerto Rican students to UB and was an active member of the Puerto Rican community, helping to establish the bilingual education program in the Buffalo Public Schools. She came to Buffalo in 1964 with her husband, poet Irving Feldman.

Obtained from the artist's son, Fernando Feldman, the sculpture is one of four bronze busts of Graves made by Carmen Álvarez Feldman and cast by the Fundición Parelada in Barcelona, Spain. Two of the others are held by St. John's College, University of Oxford, England, and La Casa de Robert Graves in the village of Deià on the Spanish island of Mallorca. In the Poetry Collection it joins the Robert Graves Collection, a significant collection of the author's publications, manuscripts, correspondence, photographs, clippings and ephemera, as well as Graves criticism.

For more information on the Robert Graves Collection visit: library.buffalo.edu/robertgraves

Bronze Bust

18.5 inches tall and attached to a wooden base, the bronze bust of Robert Graves by Carmen Álvarez Feldman bears the foundry's stamp and is signed "CAF 74."



Jade Dennis is currently completing her Bachelor of Arts in English and is a UB track and field athlete.

I'm Thankful!

I felt lucky when I began college in 2020. Though most of campus life was at a standstill because of the pandemic, I found UB Libraries the one place that hadn't completely changed. When I arrived, I was welcomed by a flood of students rushing to vacant study spaces and it oddly made me smile. I realized that college wasn't going to be so gloomy after all and it was in this moment that I would affirm the University Libraries as my domain for coursework.

As I became more familiar with the Libraries' spaces and services, I quickly put them to use. Using their equipment loan service fueled

my creative portfolios while information that I gathered from their online databases was consistently interwoven into my research papers.

It's challenging to find work experiences on campus that don't impact my busy schedule. As a student assistant for UB Libraries, I'm elated that I have the flexibility to create a schedule that doesn't impede my academic and athletic commitments. I could not be more grateful for the staff here at the University Libraries and the resources that motivated me to put forth my best work in the classroom.



Over 400 research guides for more than 50 academic disciplines are available on our website: research.lib.buffalo.edu



BOLD MEANS QUIET SPACES FOR BUSY MINDS.

At UB, we've proven we can do anything when we come together. Our students have boundless ambition. Our faculty have unstoppable drive. And we're fueling the future with discovery and innovation. *Boldly Buffalo* is the largest campaign in SUNY history. Learn more at buffalo.edu/campaign.



**BOLDLY
BUFFALO**
THE CAMPAIGN FOR UB