

Friendscript

Gift Launches Library Transformation

Friends' donation propels start of project

With a kickoff blessing of \$1 million, the Library Board of Advocates strides boldly toward realizing the library of the future.

The construction of a new, state-of-the-art vault to house the Library's vast assortment of special collections will allow the library building project to finally begin—and with it, the chance to more suitably augment scholarship and better preserve history in serving the campus, the community, and the world at large.

The excitement surrounding the liftoff is palpable, as the project reflects the very essence of the aim of scholarship. As stated by Andreas Cangelaris, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost: "Libraries ensure that the history of the human spirit is preserved and protected."

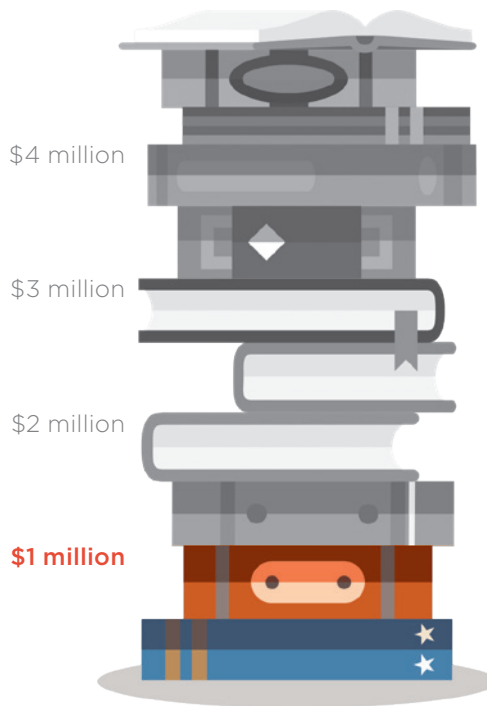
"This is an incredible first step for us," said Dean John Wilkin, "a transformational enterprise that begins to make real the vision we have had for this undertaking."

The library building project reconceptualizes current Library space, with plans to create a collections-centered research hub for the humanities and social sciences in the Main Library, and a home for Special Collections in the Undergraduate Library space. To do so, valuable items now housed in archival environments in the Main Library must be removed and transported to a new, appropriately controlled location.

"We want to be able to move from one highly secure, climate-controlled vault space to the new, climate-controlled, highly secure vault space," said Lynne Thomas, MS '99 LIS, head of the Rare Book & Manuscript Library. A single move offers safety, security, and economic efficiency for precious resources; to do so, a new vault must be ready and waiting to receive its contents.

And precious contents they are. Case in point: the oldest item in the Library's collection, a Babylonian clay tablet from 2000 BCE. "It is the Library's responsibility," Wilkin said, "to preserve this, along with other priceless items in the collection, for at least the next 4,000 years."

GOAL: \$5 million



LIBRARY.ILLINOIS.EDU/FRIENDS

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"Libraries make sure the history of the human spirit is preserved and protected."

—ANDREAS CANGELLARIS, VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PROVOST



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

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Heise Takes On Senior Advancement Role

New director comes full circle in returning to UI campus

When Kathryn R. Heise enrolled at Illinois, she thought earning an MBA would lead to a livelihood in university administration.

Instead, a graduate assistantship in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences would point her to what would become her life's passion.

"It just blew me away," Heise, MBA '94, said of the myriad opportunities availed to her at the LAS Advancement Office. "I learned so much . . . that I decided to make it my career."

And so Heise has pursued a quarter century of work in the field of higher education advancement, from her first job as director of development at Wright State University Library to her current position as senior director of advancement operations at the University Library. Along the way, she has served at Illinois Institute of Technology, Lewis University, Rush University Medical Center, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School, Little Company of Mary Hospital, and Benedictine University.

According to Chris Prom, PHD '02 LAS, the Library's associate university librarian for digital strategies, Heise's résumé and enthusiasm impressed him and other members of the search committee who interviewed her. "Kathryn brings a combination of excellent operational, organizational, and leadership skills, as well as strategic vision for what this Library is and what the Library can be for the future," he said. "In addition, she established a strong connection with the faculty and . . . demonstrated a real ability to connect with the donor community."

Heise, who began her post January 16, acknowledges the strong donor base already in place but realizes challenges exist. "It's a matter of making sure that we're telling the story of the tremendous influence that those donors have on the lives of our students and our faculty and our scholars and the community at large," she said of the tasks before her. "I think that to explain the power of philanthropy is something that we can't take lightly."

Heise holds a bachelor of arts degree in English and art history, as well as a master's degree in English, from Northern Illinois University. Recalling her time at Illinois, she remembers the Library as "heaven" and credits the university as having made her who she is.

"The Library is one of the very best in the country," Heise said. In her full-circle return to the university, she describes her role as "polishing a gem that's already a diamond—and making it even better."



Gift Launches Library Transformation, *continued from page 1*

A responsibility to preserve the past

As a significant research pillar on campus, the Library and its treasured core of rare collections need particular care.

According to Wilkin, the proposed vault will comprise most of the lowest level of the current Undergraduate Library and will be “more contemporary, more reliable, more capacious” than what currently exists. Indeed, while today’s care involves best practices and highly trained experts, some of the systems are reaching the end of their useful life, and other areas remain non-ADA-compliant.

With estimates of a final price tag of \$5 million, Wilkin says the board’s commitment indicates its strong support of the vault’s value. Campus discussions will continue to shape the plan, to be followed by a schematic design phase and, finally, construction. A timeline is yet to be established.

Careful preservation of the Library’s materials remains paramount to board member Mike VanBlaricum, ’72 ENG, ’74 ENG, PHD ’76 ENG, who says the Library “has a major responsibility . . . to curate, maintain, and preserve its valuable holdings.

“We have a duty not only to our students and our researchers and our faculty but to the whole world,” he said. “These are one-of-a-kind items that everyone in the world knows about. To protect them is critically important.”

Chair Marjorie Stinespring, ’61 LAS, MS ’63 LAS, PHD ’68 LAS, echoed that, saying, “There are three basic functions of a university: the creation, dissemination, and preservation of knowledge.”

Control is key

The cost of the project reflects the environmental and security controls necessary to protect the Library’s rare assets. “The first rule of preservation is controlling your environment,” said Thomas. Preservationists look to regulate temperature, humidity, and light—each of which can damage items, and all of which fluctuate widely in central Illinois. Yet preservation always requires balance, said Jennifer Hain Teper, head of the Preservation

Services Unit. You can preserve something very well—such as by freezing it—but nobody would be able to use it. Additionally, the rarity of the items necessitates expensive biometric security controls to monitor who accesses the collections.

While the idea of placing fragile items below ground may raise misgivings, no such qualms exist among the Library’s experts. In fact, Teper thinks the location is a plus, as the below-grade nature of the site provides less light and more insulation (thereby cutting costs). Library staff point out that no water issues have occurred in the Undergraduate Library’s 50-year history, and many notable libraries across the nation also safely store materials underground.

For Thomas, the state-of-the-art vault “sets us up for future success in caring for these materials,” as well as offers the chance to fulfill a “double duty”—taking appropriate care of the materials for longevity’s sake while not adversely impacting the environment.

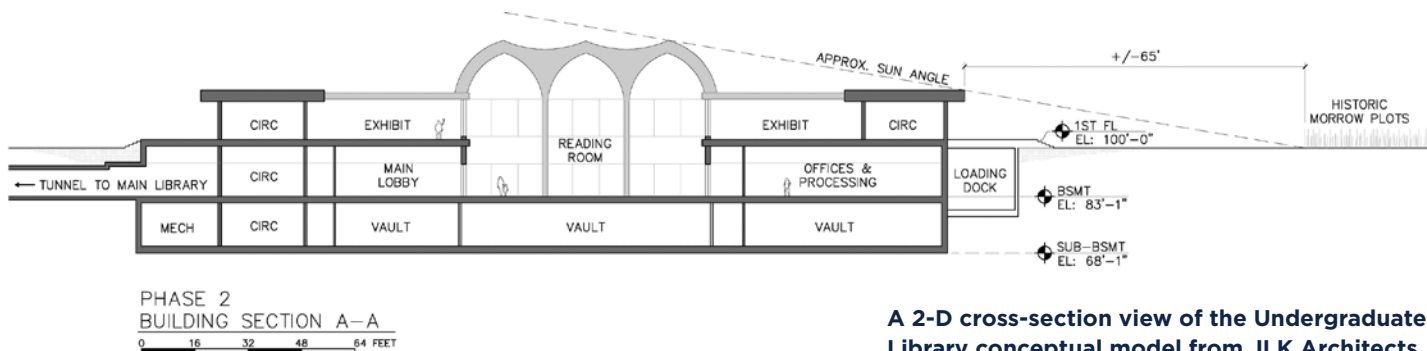
The sophisticated makeup of the vault is not the only aspect that excites librarians. “The vault sets the foundation for wonderful things to come,” said Chris Prom, PHD ’02 LAS, associate university librarian for digital strategies. The new home for special collections will bring together items from various archive-related units across the Library, provide better access for users, and stimulate a symbiotic interplay among the professionals staffing it. “By having this shared collections space, we can and will build on top of it—literally—a whole set of services and access possibilities that don’t exist now,” he said.

And as for undergraduates whose environs will shift to the Main Library, Wilkin sees the project as a boon for them as well. The research hub to be created in part of the Main Library will welcome them and offer “greater scholarly potential as they avail themselves of cross-collaboration opportunities that do not exist so easily now,” he said.

Those presently involved in caring for the Library’s special collections are embracing a vision of future growth. “We are one of the largest university rare book collections in the country,” Thomas said, “and it’s important to us to continue to enhance those collections so that they remain relevant over time.”

“This is not a facelift—this is a commitment,” Teper observed. “Preservation is not going to be an afterthought in the construction of this vault.”

Visit library.illinois.edu/library-building-project for more information. To support the vault construction and/or the Library Building Project, please contact the Library’s Office of Advancement at (217) 333-5682.



Advocates Advance Library Cause

Diverse group spearheads support efforts

They hail from across the nation and a breadth of backgrounds, but members of the Library Board of Advocates stand united in their love and support of the University Library.

Created as the five-year “With Illinois” fundraising campaign opened in 2017, the board supports the priorities of the university librarian, as well as builds networks both inside and outside of the university. More recently, members helped launch the Library’s massive building project by directing a lead gift for the Special Collections vault (see *Gift Launches Library Transformation*, page 1). “This is a high-powered group with the wind in its sails,” Dean John Wilkin said. “They are true advocates and allies of the University Library, and they are entirely committed to preserving its excellence and expanding its relevance.”

Comprising past or present professors, librarians, journalists, entrepreneurs, attorneys, engineers, and business executives, members bring unique experience to their advisory role. And their appreciation of the Library is obvious.

“It is truly a world-class library, as befits a world-class university, with a marvelously helpful staff,” said retired accounting professor Joan Friedman, MAS ’93, of the university treasure. “It would be impossible to build a library like the U of I’s, which has been carefully constructed for over a century, at this date.

“It would be a crime to let it deteriorate, or fail to grow and change with the times.”

Just such library excellence can be attested to by retired CEO Mike VanBlaricum, ’72 ENG, ’74 ENG, PHD ’76 ENG, who recalls searching for a French mathematical paper while completing his dissertation in electrical engineering. “While I was able to find the formulas in a modern text, I wanted to see the original paper,” he said. “I wandered into the Mathematics Library in Altgeld Hall, and they actually had the paper—not a copy, but the original 1792 French journal containing the paper.”



Marjorie Stinespring



Mike VanBlaricum



Dan Whaley



Janet Patzer



Larry Krupp



Joan Friedman



Jim Fessler



Douglas Fitzgerald



Guy Fraker



Marla Krause



Megan Shebik

.....
“This is a high-powered group with the wind in its sails.”

—DEAN JOHN WILKIN

For some advocates, libraries are woven into their DNA. Jim Fessler’s ’85 LAS, mother worked as a librarian and later served on the first Library Friends board. The family created a library endowment in its name, and Jim practiced library law for a decade.

In addition to their personal appreciation of the Library, board members recognize its critical role in maintaining the university’s pre-eminence. “Sometimes, the presence of an excellent library at a university enhances [its] quality . . . in an ever-increasing spiral,” said Chair Marjorie Stinespring, ’61 LAS, MS ’63 LAS, PHD ’68 LAS, pointing out that a renowned library may



University Library’s Gregory Knott Appointed as U of I Secretary

Greg Knott, who served as an assistant dean for business operations at the Library for more than six years, has been appointed the ninth secretary of the Board of Trustees and the university. This is a great honor and opportunity for Greg. The Library wishes him well as he starts this new chapter. Read more at go.library.illinois.edu/BOTsecretary.

draw key faculty members, enhance the institution, and attract more and better students.

Members also strongly back the Library's user-service mission. Megan Shebik, '80 LAS, who acknowledges that the Library "helped to make my husband and me who we are today," wants to pass that opportunity to all students. The board vice chair says she takes on that role as another way of supporting the students and the University of Illinois.

Former Chicago Tribune journalist Marla Krause, '73 MEDIA, has always been in love with libraries and the written word. She worries, however, that libraries may become outdated, and that readers and researchers may not appreciate "their history and use and majesty.

"So, of course I said yes when asked to be on this board," she said. "The printed word on paper might become just another search on Google, but the historic documents that the Library collects and maintains will always be there."

Current members of the Library Board of Advocates are:

- **Marjorie Stinespring** (chair), '61 LAS, MS '63 LAS, PHD '68 LAS, Chicago, Illinois; professor emerita of mathematics, Chicago State University
- **Megan Shebik** (vice chair), '80 LAS, Wheaton, Illinois; formerly of Kemper Insurance Co.
- **James (Jim) Fessler**, '85 LAS, Brookfield, Illinois; vice president/operations, senior counsel and adviser, SPEC Engineering LLC; senior counsel, SCHOLD Manufacturing
- **Douglas Fitzgerald**, '76 BUS, Elmhurst, Illinois; retired executive vice president/communications, RR Donnelley
- **Guy Fraker** '60 LAS, JD '62 LAW, Bloomington, Illinois; attorney and author
- **Joan Friedman**, MAS '93, Urbana, Illinois; retired assistant professor of accounting, Illinois Wesleyan University
- **Marla Krause**, '73 MEDIA, Wilmette, Illinois; senior instructor, College of Communication, DePaul University
- **Lawrence (Larry) Krupp**, '76 BUS, Northbrook, Illinois; director, Wipfli LLP
- **Janet Patzer**, '75 LAS, MS '76 LIS, La Mesa, California; mortgage loan officer
- **Michael (Mike) VanBlaricum**, '72 ENG, '74 ENG, PHD '76 ENG, Santa Barbara, California; principal, Dogged Research Associates and retired CEO, Toyon Research Corporation
- **Dan Whaley**, '90 LAS, San Francisco, California; founder and CEO, Hypothes.is

Gift from Library Friends Brings Upgrades to Communications Library

by Molly Leahy (BS '19, journalism)

Tucked in the northwest corner of Gregory Hall, the Communications Library is not only a resource for thousands of students but a comfortable sanctuary. Over the years, the library has transformed to accommodate student needs, expanded its hours, and renovated its top floor.

Now, thanks to the generosity of its donors, it's one of the most popular libraries on campus, according to Lisa Romero, who has been head of the Communications Library for more than 20 years.

The library has been a part of students' education for years—including in the 1970s for Marla and Steve Krause (BS '73, journalism, and BS '72, accounting, respectively). The Illinois alumni made a gift to the Communications Library in 2015 for renovations, which helped make it more accessible and more comfortable.

Thanks to their gift, the library was able to get new carpeting and furniture, ushering in a more modern feel.

Read more about Library Friends Marla and Steve Krause and their generous gift in "Alumni donation facilitates upgrades to Communications Library in Gregory Hall" at go.library.illinois.edu/communicationsgift.

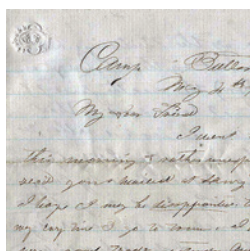


Madeline Wilson (Class of 2020, Journalism)

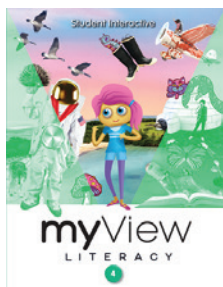
To fund one of these items or to ask for additional titles in an area of interest, call (217) 333-5682 or email friends@library.illinois.edu.

Library Is Looking For

\$1,000 for custom-made shelving to house oversized music scores at the **Music and Performing Arts Library**. Contemporary creativity can loom large—literally!—and the campus mill shop would relish this challenge. Two special shelving units would accommodate and protect these supersized scores.



\$1,080 for two Civil War-era documents offering an unusual glimpse into military life from personal and economic perspectives. Detailing the activities of civilian merchants selling goods to Illinois soldiers, one item is an 1864 letter describing the process of doing business at the Camp Butler training facility outside Springfield. The other—an account book of a merchant accompanying the 94th Illinois Infantry Regiment—includes more than 500 transactions. These items must be purchased together to maintain the price of \$180 and \$900, respectively, and would complement the Civil War manuscript holdings of the **Illinois History and Lincoln Collections**.



\$4,500 for part of myView Literacy 2020, sought by the **Social Sciences, Health, and Education Library** to assist those students preparing to become teachers. A comprehensive English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum for elementary students, the package offers a balanced approach to teaching reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking. As the K–12 Pearson product runs to a princely sum, the library seeks only teachers' editions for kindergarten and grades 3 and 5.

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

The following donors have adopted the following items previously listed in *Friendscript*:

- ◆ **Eric and Jodie Draut** for a collection of out-of-print Indian comics (International and Area Studies Library)
- ◆ **Paul Garcy** for two maps: *Karte der Canale und Eisenbahnen in den Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika 1842* and *Diagram of the Transcontinental lines of road Showing the Original Central Pacific and Union Pacific And their Competitors* (Map Library)
- ◆ **Bridget Lamont** for a pair of maps illustrating armed services training in Illinois: *Cartograph of Camp Grant, Ill.* and *Cartoon Map of the U.S. Naval Training Center at Great Lakes, IL* (Map Library)
- ◆ **Peter and Elizabeth March** for their gift toward the purchase of the “small Letar” created by famed Hawaiian guitarist Letritia Kandle (Sousa Archives and Center for American Music)
- ◆ **Alan and Constance Mitchell** for *Europe’s Future Map: Buy Liberty Bonds!* (Map Library)
- ◆ **Brenda Pacey** for two maps: *Railroad Map of Illinois: Nine Hundred Thousand Acres of Land for Sale by the Illinois Central Railroad Company* and *United States Frigate Constitution “Old Ironsides”* (Map Library)
- ◆ **Bob and Dianne Patterson** for [Game Board Map] *The United States Game* (Map Library)
- ◆ **Susan Ross** for a pair of maps illustrating early radio broadcasting: *Radio Map of the United States* and *Radio Broadcast Stations of the United States & Canada* (Map Library)
- ◆ **Marilyn Steenwyk** for her gift toward shelving end panels (University High School Library)
- ◆ **Richard Vandermyde** for *Railroad Map of Illinois: Nine Hundred Thousand Acres of Land for Sale by the Illinois Central Railroad Company* (Map Library)

Upcoming Events

Lunchtime Player Piano Mini-Concerts

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

- ◆ March 6, April 3, and May 1, noon–1:00 p.m.
- ◆ Music and Performing Arts Library, 1300 Music Building, 1114 W. Nevada Street, Urbana
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/mpal

Moms Weekend Open House: Poetry in Print

Print a poetry postcard with movable type at this event—a collaboration between the RBML and the Literatures and Languages Library.

- ◆ April 3, 3:00–5:00 p.m.
- ◆ Room 200, Main Library
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/rbx

15th Annual C-U Edible Book Festival

Participants celebrate the book arts and create edible books that are exhibited, documented, and then consumed. Check out the website or follow the event page on Facebook for details as they are announced.

- ◆ April 4, 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ Lincoln Square Mall, 201 Lincoln Square, Urbana
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/ediblebooks or facebook.com/CUEdibleBooks

Solving the World’s Challenges: Exploring the Intersection of Agriculture and Health

Join us for a panel presentation hosted by Funk ACES Library.

- ◆ April 15, 2:30–4:00 p.m.
- ◆ Funk ACES Library, 1101 S. Goodwin Avenue, Urbana
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/funkaces

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

Please mail this form with your gift to:

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

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*The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is
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Upcoming Events, *continued from page 7*

Shakespearean Sonnet Slam

Read aloud or recite at the RBML. Join us for rhymes, refreshments, and revelry!

- ◆ April 23, 3:00–5:00 p.m.
- ◆ Rare Book & Manuscript Library
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/rbx

Color Our Collections & Board Games

Play modern and historical board games or spend some time coloring images from RBML's collection.

- ◆ May 7, 3:00–5:00 p.m.
- ◆ Rare Book & Manuscript Library
- ◆ Visit library.illinois.edu/rbx



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

THE LIBRARY IS SOCIAL

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



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