



# Library *Perspectives*

## NEW DIRECTOR APPOINTED



**ALEXIA HUDSON-WARD** joined Oberlin College and Conservatory as Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries in July, following the retirement of Ray English in 2015 and a year of service by Alan Boyd as Interim Director. During

her first few months, which Hudson-Ward terms a period of “learning and discovery,” she focused on developing relationships with the libraries staff while also understanding our organization’s systems, processes, and procedures. Hudson-Ward also spent time becoming familiar with campus culture and college operations. She participated in new faculty orientation in August, leveraging this opportunity to promote library services and resources directly to new colleagues. “We are so pleased to welcome Alexia to the libraries,” said Alan Boyd, who has returned to his position of Associate Director. “Staff are responding very positively to her leadership initiatives,” he added. Hudson-Ward earned a BA in English and African American studies from Temple University, a master’s degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh, and is pursuing a PhD in Managerial Leadership in the Information Professions at Simmons College. Most recently, she was a tenured Associate Librarian at Penn State Abington College. Look for a more in-depth article on Hudson-Ward and her thoughts on future directions for the library in the spring issue of *Library Perspectives*. •

## ROBERT KRULWICH TO SPEAK AT FRIENDS DINNER

Robert Krulwich ’69, co-host of the Peabody Award-winning program *Radiolab*, will be the featured speaker at the Friends of the Library annual dinner on Saturday, November 5. Krulwich enjoys a distinguished career in broadcasting and has garnered a reputation for explaining complex issues in a clear and entertaining manner. *TV Guide* has called him “the most inventive network reporter in television,” and *New York* magazine described him as “the man who simplifies without being simple.”

After graduating from Oberlin with a BA in history, Krulwich completed a law degree at Columbia University in 1974. He quickly realized that his true passion was journalism. He began his professional career with brief stints at Pacifica Radio, where he covered the Watergate hearings, and with *Rolling Stone*. Krulwich then worked as a correspondent for National Public Radio (NPR) from 1978 to 1985. Beginning



in 1984, he was also affiliated with CBS, appearing on such programs as *This Morning*, *48 Hours*, *Nightwatch with Charlie Rose*, and *America Tonight*. He has hosted shows for ABC and PBS, including the highly-regarded

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## LIBRARY PARTNERS WITH NEW BOOK STUDIES CONCENTRATION

**WITH THE COLLEGE FACULTY’S** unanimous approval last May of a new book studies concentration, the library is poised to play a major role in an exciting new area of the curriculum. The “book” in book studies extends beyond the printed codex to embrace all formats, from cuneiform tablets to electronic media. As noted in the proposal to establish the interdisciplinary concentration, “the study of the book—as a material, cultural, sociological, religious, and artistic artifact—reaches all corners of the globe and extends into all eras.”

The concentration officially launches this academic year. Today’s digital revolution is as dramatic as Gutenberg’s introduction of metal movable type to Europe and the shift from manuscripts to printed books in the 15th century. Digital technologies have altered the ways books are published, read, stored, and distributed. The socio-cultural and political implications of these digitally-enabled changes are significant.

Book studies has emerged in the 21st century as an exciting field of academic study. The concentration allows students,

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## RECENT GIFTS

THE LIBRARY gratefully acknowledges the following significant monetary gifts and gifts-in-kind.

Major monetary gifts:

- Theresa Brown '78 and Bruce Regal '78 for the Friends of the Library.
- Paulina Marks '45 for the Friends of the Library.
- William Roe '64 for the Friends of the Library and the Librarian's Discretionary Fund.

Generous monetary gifts:

- Richard Lehmann '70 for the George A. and Susan P. Lanyi Endowed Library Book Fund.
- Jeffrey Levi '75 for the George A. and Susan P. Lanyi Endowed Library Book Fund.
- Geraldine and Eugene Pergament for the James W. Bass and Idella Bass Richardson Library Book Fund.

Gifts-in-kind:

- Gabrielle Bamberger '60 donated a collection of children's books to Special Collections.
- John Bauerlein gave a large donation of books and scores to the Conservatory Library.
- Michael Fisher, Emeritus Robert S. Danforth Professor of History, made a large donation of materials on South Asian history and literature.
- Robert Hardgrave made a large donation of books for the Main Library.
- Sabra Henke '53 made a large donation of scores for the Conservatory Library from the collection of the late Emeritus Professor of Eurhythmics Herbert Henke '53.

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## Library Perspectives

Alan Boyd                      Cynthia Comer  
Alison Ricker                 Jeremy Smith  
Jennifer Starkey  
*Editors*

William Ruth, *Copy Editor*  
Marla Thompson, *Production Editor*

A newsletter for users and Friends of the Oberlin College Library, *Library Perspectives* is issued two times a year. Printed from an endowed fund established by Benjamin and Emiko Custer.

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FALL 2016 PROGRAMS

### Exhibitions:

#### The Life and Legacy of Milton J. Hinton

*Monday, June 13–Friday, December 16, Lower Level, Kohl Building*

#### The Oberlin College Archives, 1966-2016: 50 Years of Preserving and Sharing Oberlin's Rich History

*Monday, September 19–Friday, October 21, Goodrich Room, 4th Floor, Mudd Center*

#### Katharine Wright Haskell and the Haskell Family Papers

*Thursday, November 3, Moffett Auditorium lobby; Friday, November 4–Wednesday, November 30, Goodrich Room, 4th Floor, Mudd Center*

### Lectures and Other Events:

#### Open houses celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Oberlin College Archives

*Saturday, September 24 and Saturday, October 8, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., Goodrich Room, 4th Floor, Mudd Center*

“Cultural Politics of European Prostitution Reform,” Talk by Greggor Mattson, Associate Professor of Sociology

*Tuesday, October 4, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd 050*

“The Silent Shift: The Corporate Evolution of Mercenaries,” Talk by Ann Hagedorn, author of *The Invisible Soldiers: How America Outsourced Our Security*, co-sponsored by the Oberlin College Peace and Conflict Studies Concentration Committee

*Tuesday, October 25, 4:45 p.m., King 106*

“Book Studies Presentation,” Talk by Rickey Tax, Acting Director of the Meermann Museum, The Hague, co-sponsored by the Oberlin College Book Studies Concentration Committee

*Tuesday, October 25, time and location TBD (contact marla.thompson@oberlin.edu for details)*

“Katharine Wright and Maiden Flight,” Talk by Harry Haskell, author and grandson of Katharine Wright Haskell, Class of 1898

*Thursday, November 3, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd 050*

“Spirituals: A Multidisciplinary Bibliography for Research and Performance,” Talk by Kathleen Abromeit, Conservatory Public Services Librarian, with vocal performances by senior Amber Monroe and fourth year double-degree student Ryan Dearon

*Wednesday, November 30, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd 050*

### Friends of the Library Annual Events

*Saturday, November 5*

**1:30 p.m. Friends Council and Membership Meeting, Goodrich Room, Mudd Center**

**5:45 p.m. Friends Annual Reception and Dinner, Root Room, Carnegie**

**8:00 p.m. Featured Speaker, Robert Krulwich '69, Root Room, Carnegie**

## FRIENDS UPDATE

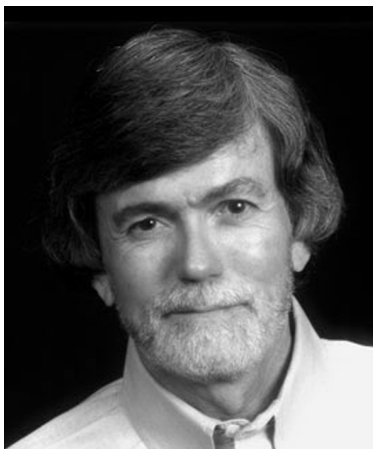
THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY received a near all-time high of \$60,000 in gifts during the 2015-16 academic year. Membership in the Friends totaled 614, including 442 regular members who contributed directly to the Friends, 87 members who donated to other library funds or made gifts-in-kind, 36 members who were students or recent graduates, 42 life members, and 15 honorary members.

The Friends' allocation of \$40,000 was used to support acquisitions in subject areas across the curriculum. Purchases included rare materials for special collections, as well as resources in multidisciplinary areas, and in support of specific subjects in the arts and sciences.

Highlights of Friends programs included book talks by Michael Parkin, Associate Professor of Politics; Peter Swendsen,

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## ROBERT TAYLOR PAPERS



### THE LIBRARY'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**DEPARTMENT** recently received the papers of American journalist, novelist, short story writer, and essayist Robert Taylor. The collection contains Taylor's complete writings, including drafts and revisions, as well as correspondence and promotional materials related to the editing and publishing process, book tours, readings, awards, and literary festivals. The collection is valuable to Oberlin students and researchers interested in Taylor's literary works, contemporary American and LGBT literature, and late 20th-century American social history. Special Collections Intern Haley Antell, who processed the collection, notes that it "offers a fascinating look into the work of a writer, revealing how Taylor establishes his own unique voice and how his creative process intertwines with the roles of his editors, agent, and publicist."

Taylor began to follow his passion for writing fiction in 1986, and has since published four novels and a short story collection. After graduating from Texas Tech University with high honors in journalism, Taylor served in the army and was deployed to Vietnam as a captain in Army Intelligence, for which he was awarded a Bronze Star for meritorious achievement. After his military service, he worked for several decades in a variety of positions as a journalist and was involved in the Gay Activists' Alliance.

Taylor's novels and short stories explore themes related to many social movements of the late 20th century, and engage with the lived experiences of war and the Vietnam conflict, racism, gay hate crimes, AIDS, and homophobia. His fiction draws

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## GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Deborah Smith

**DEBORAH SMITH '89 AND HAZEL KOZIOL '13** are winners of 2016 Friends of the Library Graduate Library School Scholarships in the amount of \$3,500 each. For the third consecutive year two scholarships were awarded from among a very strong applicant pool based on the quality and engagement of the winning applicants.

Smith majored in anthropology at Oberlin and was a Shansi Fellow at Lady Doak College in Madurai, India. She credits her studies at Oberlin with her passion for combining cultural preservation perspectives of the anthropologist with the research, managerial, and teaching skills of education. She is currently enrolled in the online master's program in library and information science at Kent State University, which, she says, "lets me combine part-time coursework with employment and parenting." Smith will complete her degree in December 2017.

Koziol, who will begin her first semester in San Jose State University's master of library and information science program this fall, was a student assistant in the Art Library and Special Collections while at Oberlin. She currently works as a public computing assistant at the Portland Public Library; as a professional librarian, she hopes to continue to work with and advocate for underserved communities.

The scholarship awards committee consisted of Friends of the Library President Robert Taylor, Collection Development Librarian Jessica Grim, and Director of Libraries Alexia Hudson-Ward. •



Hazel Koziol

## LIBRARY VISITORS

**IT WAS A BUSY SUMMER** for hosting visitors at the Oberlin College Libraries. On May 25, a delegation of four librarians from Turkmenistan spent the day touring the libraries as a part of the Open World Program, developed by Congress in 1999 to assist professionals from post-Soviet countries to engage with colleagues in the U.S. On June 2 the staff of the Conservatory Library hosted 20 music librarians from across Ohio as a part of an annual meeting of OhioLINK music librarians. On June 15, July 13, and July 27 the College Archives hosted public school teachers from the California Footsteps



Library staff members Jessica Grim and Julie Weir with librarians from Turkmenistan

to Freedom tour. Archives staff discussed Oberlin's role in the Underground Railroad and prepared an exhibit of related materials for display in the Main Library. •

## SFOL COORDINATOR GRADUATES



**JESSE GAMORAN '16** leaves behind many fond memories among library staff who worked with him in his role as coordinator of the Oberlin College Student Friends of the Library (SFOL). Gamoran held that post during two of his four years at Oberlin, organizing programs that delighted his fellow students and introduced them to aspects of the library that few could have known otherwise. He brought boundless energy to his position, planning well-organized events with effective outreach and advertising that brought students to the Friends organization in record numbers. “Life of a Score” and “Life of a Book” events led students through back-room pathways, from initial purchase through processing an item for a performer or reader’s use. Response to the Student Friends tour of the closed stacks in Carnegie was overwhelmingly enthusiastic (“Oh my gosh, I had no idea!” and “This is so cool!”). “Books in Art” took Student Friends to the Allen Art Museum, and the annual student book collection competition has become a favorite event (see related article, this page). Gamoran invited Student Friends to last year’s “Science Soiree,” which featured an acoustical exploration of the science library, complete with acoustical wave projections and Alpenhorn. Emeritus Director of Libraries Ray English noted that Gamoran’s work as coordinator was “nothing short of extraordinary.” Gamoran helped select his successor, senior Gabrielle Kaufman, and introduced her to key library staff before graduating in May and taking up a Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange fellowship in Germany. •

## BOOK COLLECTION COMPETITION



Jesse Gamoran '16, Cole Burchiel, Friends of the Library President Robert Taylor, Kinsey Denney, Tory Sparks, Interim Director of Libraries Alan Boyd

**T**hree students were awarded prizes this past spring in the biennial student book collection competition sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The winners displayed their collections in the Academic Commons and gave brief talks at a reception in May.

First place, with a prize of \$300, went to first-year student Cole Burchiel for his collection “Bringing Nature into my Home,” which centers around plants, trees, nature, and the environment. Burchiel’s fascination with what he calls “photosynthetic friends” began as a youth growing up in the Pacific Northwest. His passion for identifying, understanding, and marveling at botanical life has bloomed at Oberlin, where he is pursuing a double major in environmental studies and geology.

The second-place winner, with a prize of \$200, was junior Kinsey Denney for “Queer Women and the Books We Write.” Denney began reading gay fiction as a teen. Her collection focuses on lesbian fiction and poetry, as well as graphic novels, memoirs, screenplays, and nonfiction. As a cinema studies major, she aims to address the injustice that lesbian voices often suffer when filtered through the lens of heterosexual male film directors.

Third place, with a prize of \$100, was awarded to junior Tory Sparks for “The Personal, The Political, The Academic.” Exploring feminism from many angles, her collection comprises contemporary personal narratives and memoirs that explore what it means to be a feminist in the 21st century,

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## ALBUM COVERS JAZZ UP OBIS

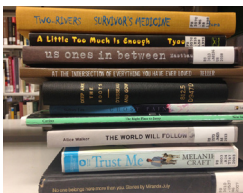


**LIBRARY STAFF** recently began digitizing a selection of album covers from LPs in the James R. and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection for display in OBIS, the library’s catalog. This material greatly enhances the collection’s pedagogical usefulness by enabling in-depth study of liner notes and related discographical information along with the digitized audio that is also available through OBIS for Oberlin users to stream. The service is currently available for nearly 800 recordings from the collection, with new items added regularly as work continues. Believed to be the largest collection related to jazz ever assembled privately, the

Neumann Collection consists of over 50,000 vinyl LPs and 3,500 78 rpm recordings, along with thousands of periodicals, books, CDs, 45 rpm recordings, and rare jazz memorabilia (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2008, Spring 2012). •

## BOOK SPINE POETRY CONTEST

**TO CELEBRATE** National Poetry Month and National Library Week last April, the library challenged students to create poetry out of book titles. Students stacked books and photographed the spines, then posted their entries on Twitter or Instagram using the hashtag #OCbookspine2016.



First prize, sophomore  
Lilah Drafts-Johnson

Survivor's medicine  
A little too much is enough  
Us ones in between  
At the intersection of everything you have  
ever loved  
Deep are the roots  
Ghost pain  
The right place to jump  
The world will follow joy  
Trust me  
No one belongs here more than you



Second prize, sophomore  
Sophia Pekowsky

We agreed to meet just here  
The cracks between what we are  
and what we are supposed to be  
It had been planned and there were guides  
The dance of no hard feelings  
At the edge of the orchard country  
Someday this will be funny  
The one whose eyes open when you close  
your eyes  
Other people we married  
Want to show you more  
More than a feeling  
If I loved you, I would tell you this  
You can't keep a good woman down •

## ALUMNI LIBRARIAN PROFILES

**LIBRARY PERSPECTIVES** recently contacted alumni who either were awarded a scholarship from the Friends of the Library to attend a graduate program in library and information science or participated in the Mellon Librarian Recruitment Program (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2009). Friends scholarships have been awarded to 18 individuals since the first award in 2002, and about 45 students participated in the recruitment program between 2004 and 2010. Four alumnae responded to *Library Perspectives*: two are profiled here with their responses to four questions. The others will appear in the spring issue.

1. *What led you to pursue a Master's degree in library and information science?*
2. *What is most satisfying, as a professional, about your current position?*
3. *Where do you see yourself in ten years?*
4. *Anything else you'd like to share?*

**Miko Osada '06**, BA in Spanish. MA, Library and Information Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2008. Current position: Librarian I–Youth Services, San Diego County Library. Undergraduate Mellon Program intern, 2004; Mellon scholarship winner, 2006.

1. I always wanted to be a librarian. There was a fantastic children's librarian in my hometown who would do story time dressed up as Amelia Bedelia, and I wanted to be just like her.
2. Working directly with at-risk, underprivileged youth.
3. I hope to be right where I am, but coming up with more program ideas all the time!
4. My first name means “child of the written word,” so I like to say that my fate as a librarian was sealed when I was born. But Oberlin still played a huge part in leading me down the career path—a huge thank you to the Oberlin College Libraries, the Friends, Ray English, and the incomparable rainbow couches!



Miko Osada '06

**Catherine Pellegrino '92**, BMus in clarinet performance and music theory; PhD, Yale University, 1999; MS, Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2004. Current position: Reference Librarian and Instruction Coordinator, Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, Indiana). Friends scholarship winner, 2002.

1. I wanted to work in an academic environment, teaching and working with students, but without the pressure to publish that goes along with a tenure-track faculty position, and in a field where there were more jobs available and more geographic flexibility.
2. Working with students, when they have that “lightbulb moment” when they really GET what I'm trying to teach them—usually it's something conceptual, like how the peer review process might be flawed, or why we pay so much money to access journal articles, and when I know I'm sending them out a little better equipped to sort through the flood of information they encounter every day.
3. I'll definitely be in librarianship, and probably still at Saint Mary's, because I love the city, the college, and the work environment.



Catherine Pellegrino '92

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## ARCHIVES CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

This year the Oberlin College Archives celebrates its 50th year as the college's official repository for the wealth of documents, photographs, and artifacts related to its own history and the founding of the town of Oberlin. Several events are planned to mark the anniversary and celebrate the heritage of the Archives as a place for preservation, research, discovery, and learning.

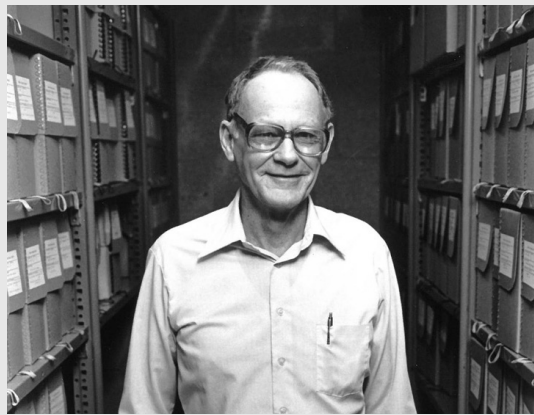
On Saturday September 24, and again on Saturday October 8, the Archives will host open houses for faculty, staff, students, and visiting alumni. On display will be an exhibition highlighting important holdings, events, and milestones in the history and development of the Archives. Entitled "The Oberlin College Archives, 1966-2016: 50 Years of Preserving and Sharing Oberlin's Rich History," the exhibition explores the early years of the Archives under the leadership of the late College Archivist William E. (Bill) Bigglestone, who served from 1966 through 1986, up through current projects to share unique materials with researchers worldwide through innovative digital scholarship initiatives. The exhibition will be located in the Goodrich Room of Mudd Center from Monday, September 19 through Friday, October 21. Also planned for October is a special dinner and presentation honoring Bigglestone's contributions, as well as those of his successor, Roland M. Baumann, College Archivist from 1987 to 2008, and others who have made significant contributions to the Archives through the years as faculty, scholars, donors, and administrators.

Bigglestone was largely responsible for bringing the Archives into the modern era. After earning a BA in history from the University of Arizona and an MA in history from Stanford University, Bigglestone worked as an archivist at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC, where he worked under Theodore Schellenberg and other distinguished archivists. He then served as corporate archivist for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company in Akron. His contributions as Oberlin's first archivist included establishing procedures and policies, creating the classification scheme, and initiating a microfilming program for the most important historical collections.

Before Bigglestone took the helm, Oberlin's corporate secretary served as the unofficial archivist with responsibility for maintaining institutional records, while the library held non-institutional materials, referred to as Oberliniana, in its Special Collections Department. Baumann's 1988 article in the *Midwestern Archivist* details the college's protracted deliberations

about how best to manage its expanding cache of archival holdings. Though college administrators always understood the importance of preserving Oberlin's history, for years there was little support for creating a dedicated unit charged with stewardship of the college's historical record.

The department as we know it today dates back to 1962, when President Robert Carr approved hiring a consultant to study the matter of establishing a new administrative unit to oversee the college's archival materials. The Archives was officially instituted with the appointment of Bigglestone in



William E. Bigglestone, College Archivist, 1966-1986

May 1966. Bigglestone worked tirelessly to consolidate a fragmented collection spread across multiple offices on campus and to establish routines ensuring new materials would continue to be brought into the collection on an ongoing basis.

Baumann earned an MA from Northern Illinois University and a PhD from Pennsylvania State University. Under his tenure, the Archives continued to grow, and the organization and description of individual

collections improved dramatically. Baumann also oversaw the development of the Archives' first website, and strengthened relationships with key faculty to incorporate the study of Oberlin's history into the curriculum and into the broader scholarship of the American experience. Baumann's other notable achievements include overseeing the establishment of an endowed fund for preservation and digital access, and authoring numerous collection finding guides and articles related to the college and its collections. His scholarly book on a key aspect of Oberlin's legacy, entitled *Constructing Black Education at Oberlin College: A Documentary History*, was published by Ohio University Press in 2010.

In 2008, the Archives became a department of the Oberlin College Libraries. The following year, Kenneth M. Grossi, who arrived at Oberlin in 1996 as Assistant Archivist, was appointed Baumann's successor as College Archivist. Grossi has guided important new collaborations with the library's Special Collections Department in their shared classroom and reading room, renovated in 2012, on the 4th floor of Mudd Center. Grossi also leads endeavors to identify and digitize historically significant collections for use by students and scholars both locally and globally. Associate Archivist Anne C. Salsich, who began working at Oberlin in 2008, manages digitization projects and is instrumental in preparing objects for preservation and exhibition. •

## RECENT ACTIVITIES IN THE ARCHIVES

Over the past year, work has continued on the “Digitizing American Feminisms” project initiated by Emeritus Professor of History Carol Lasser. The collaboration dates back to a fall 2012 pedagogy workshop for faculty and staff at liberal arts colleges called “Teaching the Archives” that Lasser attended, along with College Archivist Ken Grossi. What Lasser and Grossi learned at the workshop inspired them to collaborate to incorporate the use of primary materials from Oberlin’s archives into Lasser’s courses. The resulting research projects became an integral part of her spring 2013 course First Wave American Feminisms, in which students studied diaries and personal papers of 19th- and early-20th-century Oberlin students. The results were so impressive that Lasser and Grossi decided to share the students’ final work with other scholars on the Archives’ website. That success led Lasser to continue the work when the course was taught again two years later, and also in spring 2016, in her Histories of Second Wave American Feminisms course, which covers the 1920s through the 1980s. A small staff of student editors worked with Lasser to review projects, locate additional documents, and add them to the new website. The project will conclude once work from all three classes has been uploaded. The project was featured in a panel discussion organized by Grossi and Lasser at last year’s Society of American Archivists’ national meeting in Cleveland. A local Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant assisted with the development of a new openly accessible digital platform that can be viewed at [americanfeminisms.org](http://americanfeminisms.org).

This spring, the Archives teamed up with the Oberlin Heritage Center (OHC), Oberlin’s local historical society, to sponsor a contest as part of the Society of American Archivists’ “I Found It in the Archives” program. The competition highlights people’s discoveries as they conduct personal research in archival collections, giving them an opportunity to share how the treasures they found impacted their lives. Local archives, libraries, and museums sponsor contests and submit winning entries to a statewide competition; this is the first year Oberlin has participated. Grossi, who serves on the committee that sponsors Ohio’s contest, and OHC Executive Director Liz Schultz saw a perfect opportunity for the two organizations to work together. Lucy Cipinko, an Oberlin High School sophomore who used the College Archives to research her National History Day paper, submitted the winning essay. Her research focused on

prominent educator, social activist, and civil rights leader Mary Church Terrell, who graduated from Oberlin in 1884 and later earned a master’s degree from Oberlin in 1888. Terrell’s papers were recently donated to the Archives (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2016). Cipinko learned valuable lessons while working on her project: “Delving into the world of archives has not only given me a new interest in my town and its rich diverse history, but has also really allowed me to blossom as a person and find the kind of people and work that I feel kindred to.” Cipinko’s essay has been entered in the statewide competition sponsored by the Society of Ohio Archivists; the winner will be announced this fall.

A high-profile event took place last April with the airing of a primetime episode of the TLC cable network’s documentary series *Who Do You Think You Are?* in which celebrities travel to various locations to trace their family tree. This installment brought actress Aisha Tyler to visit the College Archives to explore a 19th-century ancestor. Grossi, along with Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology Christi Smith, community historians, and local genealogists, researched Tyler’s family connections with the town and the college. The episode focused on Hugh Hancock, the illegitimate son of a white Texas politician, who is listed in the 1860 census as a five-year-old “mulatto” living in Oberlin with no family members. Hancock is Aisha Tyler’s great-great-grandfather; he attended public school in Oberlin and later enrolled at the college. A number of resources in the Archives were consulted to piece together various bits of information related to Hancock’s years in Oberlin.

The Archives continues to sponsor the Frederick B. Artz Summer Research Grant (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2011), hosting three scholars this past summer. Oran Kennedy, a doctoral student at Leiden University in the Netherlands, researched slave refugees in the northern states and Canada during the period 1800 to 1860. Joseph Yannielli,

a postdoctoral associate at Princeton University, used the Archives for his study of the 19th-century Mendi Mission in West Africa and its connections with American abolitionism. This also marks the first year an Artz scholar has been based in the Conservatory Library’s special collections. Irina Muresanu, Assistant Professor of Violin at the University of Maryland, used items from the Conservatory Library’s Herbert K. Goodkind Collection for her in-depth study of *étude* books written by French pedagogues in the 18th and 19th centuries and their impact on teaching modern violin technique. •



Anne Salsich and Ken Grossi

## LIBRARY STAFF RETIREMENTS

Seven members of the library staff who have long made significant contributions to the library will retire by the end of this academic year. Tom Hinders and Jack Knapp (see articles on this and facing page), Associate Library Director Alan Boyd, Catalog and Metadata Services Assistant Alexis Edelman, Systems Technician David Goldberg, Circulation Desk Supervisor Yolanda Kistemaker, and Stacks Supervisor Sharon Miller are all retiring, taking advantage of a college retirement incentive program. All but Knapp work in the Main Library. Their combined service to the college totals 226 years, and their dedication to the library and its users will be celebrated with a special event in October. Each of the retirees not profiled in this issue will be recognized in the spring issue of *Library Perspectives*. For now, we offer our thanks, congratulations, and best wishes to each of them. •

### STAFF PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

**RECENT ACTIVITIES** of library staff include the following:

- Kathleen Abromeit. "Peer Instruction in the Oberlin Conservatory Library: Three Models of Engagement." Annual Meeting of the Music Library Association, Cincinnati. 5 March 2016. Presentation.
- Kathleen Abromeit. "Navigating Multiple Choice to Research as a Process: the Neuroscience of Teaching the First-year Music Student." 74th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Chapter of the Music Library Association, Louisville, Kentucky. 17 October, 2016. Presentation. [This paper won best paper of the Midwest Chapter and was entered in the national MLA competition.]
- Cynthia H. Comer and Julie Weir. "Starting from Scratch: Tips for Building a First-year Outreach Program." Second National Personal Librarian and First Year Experience Library Conference. Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. 13 May 2016. Poster presentation.
- Rosalinda Hernandez Linares and Suzanne Bernsten (Lansing Community College). "Polling Tools." *Tips and Trends*.



**DAVID "JACK" KNAPP** will retire at the end of December after 42 years of service in Conservatory Library technical services. Jack began work on August 1, 1974, as the library was moving from Carnegie into Mudd Center. At the close of his interview one month earlier, Jack was invited to attend an all-staff meeting in Carnegie at which it was announced that the library would adopt the Library of Congress classification system in place of Dewey Decimal, starting on August 1, 1975. This auspicious beginning was just one of countless changes, both small and momentous, during his tenure. *Library Perspectives* asked Jack to reflect on some of those changes and his accomplishments in music cataloging.

**MY INTRODUCTION** to music cataloging, through my undergraduate supervisor in the music library at Kent State, planted the possibility of a career in music librarianship and in music cataloging. The promise back then of sweeping change has come to pass and will continue. I'm delighted and fulfilled to have had a career in librarianship and to have had it at Oberlin.

My arrival came as the MARC format (Machine Readable Cataloging) for online music cataloging was still very much in development. I represented Oberlin on an ad hoc task force of music cataloger representatives to advise OCLC on format implementation. When the work was completed, I joined five other music catalogers from across the country to form the nucleus of the Music OCLC Users Group. I served early on as chair of MOUG and on several committees.

I joined the Music Library Association (MLA) while still completing my library degree at Case Western Reserve University. I represented Oberlin at MLA among a group of nine libraries selected to contribute their music cataloging records for inclusion in the *National Union Catalog*, and later served as coordinator of the group until the time that shared cataloging on OCLC (now WorldCat) led to its natural obsolescence. In 1992 I accepted an appointment as one of two assistant editors for *Notes*, MLA's quarterly journal, and following that stint, after a brief hiatus, accepted a position as column editor, which continues after 20 years.

I've been a member of the MLA Midwest chapter for nearly as long, and have served on various committees as well as newsletter editor. MLA remains an essential force as a forum for music librarianship and the promotion of music scholarship.

I served as chair of the first professional personnel committee at the Oberlin College Libraries, and have served on numerous standing committees, various search committees and, for one year, together with my colleague Carolyn Rabson, as Interim Conservatory Librarian. During the 1980s, for some five years, I had the great pleasure of serving as librarian for the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, a seven-week summer program for the training of college-age singers, providing me an unusual opportunity to work directly with users, along with some unforgettable cultural perquisites.

I served under three library directors—and now four, with Hudson-Ward's appointment—and three Conservatory librarians as well. All these individuals were a great pleasure to work with and to learn from. And I've been surrounded by outstanding colleagues at every level.

My retirement plans include more time to devote to music (my piano), some occasional travel, and, hopefully, greater volunteer participation at the Ohio Light Opera, Resident Company of the College of Wooster, an organization founded by one of my undergraduate professors and dear to my heart. •

*continued on page 11*



## LIBRARY STAFF RETIREMENTS



**TOM HINDERS** will retire at the end of December from his position as Head of Electronic and Continuing Resources. Tom was appointed as Serials Librarian in 1991, working with print and microformat materials; since then, tremendous changes in publishing and online access have transformed his area of responsibilities. During a quarter century on the library staff, Tom has managed electronic and continuing resource acquisition, cataloging, access, and maintenance for the library. He helped implement the library's first integrated online system, OBIS, and more recently, Summon, the library's unified resource discovery layer. He supervises automated processes to update OBIS with data submitted from publishers and vendors, and manages the work with link resolvers, the resource manager, and the proxy server, all of which interact with Summon and other databases to make possible easy access to the full text of millions of journal articles and other online sources. Tom also created and maintained digital collections in the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons and the Oberlin College Digital Collections, and he currently supervises the maintenance of the Oberlin SHARES digital repository.

Tom began his career in 1981, when library resources were cataloged one at a time, and printed cards were filed in the library catalog. By contrast, during the past year alone, 502,540 new records were loaded into the Oberlin catalog, a testimony not only to the changing nature of library resources, but also to the wide array of OhioLINK resources we access. Tom chaired two OhioLINK workgroups to set cataloging standards for electronic monographs and databases, and participated in an OhioLINK workgroup to set cataloging standards for electronic serials. These standards ensure uniformity among the bibliographic records distributed to all OhioLINK libraries. Tom's department also cataloged several thousand Wiley Online Library titles for the OhioLINK consortium.

In retirement, Tom looks forward to reading many of the books that have been on his "must read" list, bicycling, swimming, enjoying nature, volunteer work, and continuing to do his *Big Surf Radio* show on WOBC. He will also play guitar in his band, Surfer Rex, and fill in on guitar and bass in a number of Cleveland-area bands. •

## NEW EAST ASIAN LIBRARIAN



**RUNXIAO ZHU** joined the library staff in June as the library's East Asian Studies Librarian. In addition to coordinating collection development and serving as liaison for the East Asian Studies Department, her responsibilities include cataloging Chinese, Japanese, and Korean language materials in various print, electronic, and media formats. Zhu earned a BA from Rutgers University in art history with an emphasis in Buddhist art (2009), an MA from Columbia University in East Asian history and religion with

## NEW DIGITAL RESOURCES

*The Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*, second edition, covers the history, religion, cultural practices, and political economies of Muslims from the seventh century in West Asia to today's Muslim societies throughout Asia, Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Europe, and the Americas.



*Ethnologue: Languages of the World* is a complete catalog of all of the world's known living languages. Researchers can browse by region or country, or search for a specific language. Articles cover where each language is spoken, the number of speakers, its classification and related languages, and its current status on a scale that indicates to what extent the language is thriving, developing, endangered, or dying.

*The Japan Times Archives* provides access to the full text of this historically important newspaper covering the years 1897-2015. *Japan Times* is Japan's oldest English-language newspaper and the country's only independent English-language newspaper today.



*ProQuest Statistical Abstracts of the World* is a newly released collection of the statistical abstracts published by over 50 countries. This digital collection is based on the *CIS National Statistical Compendium*, which the library previously received in microfiche format. Data tables can be downloaded as PDF or Excel files. Coverage includes national, regional, and global statistical sources, offering social, economic, political, and cultural statistics.



The library's access to *Oxford Handbooks Online* has expanded to include all works in the areas of economics, finance, and linguistics. Each handbook presents articles by accomplished scholars on key developments in current thinking for a particular area of study, as well as new insights to help researchers look ahead to emerging questions and debates.

*SingersBabel* offers tools to help singers learn the meaning and

## *Krulwich, continued from page 1*

science program *Nova*. Since 2003, Krulwich has collaborated with Jad Abumrad '95 on *Radiolab*, which is currently heard on more than 500 radio stations and is downloaded more than five million times each month. Krulwich is also a blogger, having written for NPR's "Krulwich Wonders" and, most recently, National Geographic's "Curiously Krulwich."

Krulwich credits his own internal curiosity with driving his journalistic style, as he crafts narratives that take listeners along on a genuine journey of discovery. As he puts it, "The thing we've got to do is be puzzled and then try to un-puzzle ourselves.... If you do it artfully, it can turn out to be quite an adventure." Among Krulwich's numerous national awards are an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, a George Polk Award, an Essay Prize from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, an AAAS Science Journalism Award, and three Emmy Awards. •

## *Book Studies, continued from page 1*

regardless of their major, to tailor a course of study that matches their personal interests through a variety of approved courses and internship options. The social and cultural history of books is reviewed, as well as artistic approaches to the book. Book artists, illustrators, graphic designers, binders, and fine press printers engage students in a form of "haptic learning" that is intellectually enriching and fun. Oberlin students will also be exposed to new models for collecting, editing, and disseminating information related to reading, authorship, and writing.

A key component is a new gateway course, Introduction to Book Studies, being developed by Donald R. Longman Professor of English Sandra Zagarell. The course will introduce students to the concepts, analytical tools, methods, and vocabularies of book studies. Zagarell will offer the course for the first time in spring 2017. While planning her syllabus, she enrolled in a week-long summer course at the University of Pennsylvania taught by noted book historian Peter Stallybrass entitled "The Bible and Histories of Reading." Special Collections Librarian Ed Vermue, who expects to play a strong

supporting role for both the gateway course and the entire concentration, attended with her. Offered under the auspices of the University of Virginia's renowned Rare Book School, the course examined the influence of the Bible—perhaps the most widely printed, owned, and studied book from the Middle Ages onwards—on literature, education, religion, and literacy.

Students are required to take four additional courses in at least two departments, including one in the area of history and theory. They will also complete a practice component, which can be in the form of a course, a summer internship, or an approved winter term project, such as the letterpress printing and papermaking courses offered by the library the past several winter terms (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2011, Spring 2014). Local internship possibilities are facilitated with assistance through the libraries. Among the options are the Morgan Paper Conservatory, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and Zygote Press, along with other opportunities in librarianship, publishing, or new media. In consultation with their advisor, students will develop an intellectual coherence statement that outlines their intended course of study and complete a reflective culminating experience requirement.

The new concentration is the result of several years of internal planning and coordination. In the fall of 2009, a group of faculty met for the first time to share information about their interests and the related courses they teach. A major impetus came in the fall of 2010, when Oberlin hosted a symposium funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation entitled "Book Studies and the Liberal Arts" (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2011). Faculty and staff from eight colleges participated, and the event generated enthusiasm on campus and beyond.

In the ensuing years, a committee of dedicated faculty and staff met regularly to consider ways of weaving book studies into Oberlin's curriculum by combining the strengths of Oberlin's libraries, the Allen Memorial Art Museum, and the several academic departments that already offered



Peter Pauper Press books are collected in support of the book studies concentration

relevant courses. Vermue, Associate Director of Libraries Alan Boyd, and Emeritus Director of Libraries Ray English worked closely with the committee to bring this exciting new endeavor to fruition.

Professor of Japanese Ann Sherif will serve as the first chair of the Book Studies Concentration Committee. She teaches a course on East Asian book and literary cultures, and has been a key member of the ad hoc committee that developed the concentration proposal.

The library has long nurtured the study of the book from both historical and artistic perspectives. The new concentration will make exemplary use of its extraordinary resources, including books and objects in Special Collections, the letterpress studio housed in Mudd Center, the Clarence Ward Art Library's artists' books collection, and the unparalleled special collections of the Conservatory Library. •

## *Zhu, continued from page 9*

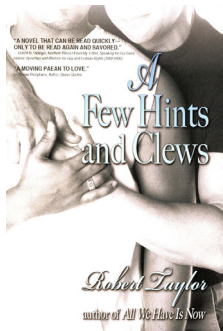
a concentration in 18th century Tibetan religion and history (2013), and an MS from Indiana University in Library and Information Science (2015). She comes to Oberlin from the research library at the Elling O. Eide Charitable Foundation, a private, nonprofit research institution in Sarasota, Florida, where she worked as the Chinese Studies Librarian. At Oberlin she looks forward to working with the exceptional faculty and students of the college. In her free time she enjoys travelling, exploring new areas, and searching for rare antiques. •

### *Friends Update, continued from page 2*

Associate Professor of Computer Music and Digital Arts; James Dobbins, Professor of Religion and East Asian Studies; Linda Grashoff, writer, photographer, and retired senior editor at Oberlin College; and Randal Doane, Assistant Dean of Studies and punk music historian. Other programs either sponsored or co-sponsored by the Friends included a film viewing and discussion with letterpress activist Amos Kennedy, the Harold Jantz Memorial Lecture by philosopher and ethicist Kwame Anthony Appiah, and a campus symposium to celebrate the donation to the College Archives of the Mary Church Terrell papers by her family. Historian and Harvard University Librarian Emeritus Robert Darnton spoke at the annual dinner, drawing upon his most recent book *Censors at Work: How States Shaped Literature*. Friends President Robert Taylor was invited to serve on the search committee that selected Alexia Hudson-Ward as the next Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries (see article on p. 1), underscoring the important role played by the Friends in support of the Library's mission. •

### *Taylor Papers, continued from page 3*

from the raw material of his own life, his service in Vietnam, his experience as a gay rights activist, and his more than 40-year relationship with his husband Ted Nowick. Today Taylor and Nowick reside at Kendal at Oberlin, where Taylor has served as editor of *Eureka!*, Kendal's creative arts magazine. Taylor is an Affiliate Scholar of Oberlin College, serves on the Visiting Committee of the Allen Memorial Art Museum, and is currently President of the Friends of the Oberlin College Libraries. He is also a board member of the Firelands Association for the Visual Arts and recently completed three consecutive terms on the Kendal at Oberlin Board. •



### *Recent Gifts, continued from page 2*

- **Robert Jackson** continues to donate books for the Art Library and Special Collections.
- **Paula Richman**, Emeritus William H. Danforth Professor of Religion, donated materials from her collection of South Asian books.
- **Michael Rosen**, Professor of Percussion, continues to donate scores and material for the Conservatory Library.
- **Robert Rotberg '55** continues to make donations of books and journals to the Main Library and Special Collections.
- **Joseph Sanders** has given additional books for the Joseph Sanders Science Fiction Collection.
- **Bruce Simonson**, Professor of Geology, continues to donate books for the Science Library.
- **Gene Woodling** contributed additional books and DVDs to the Gene Woodling Collection of Gay Fiction. •

### *Staff Publications continued from page 8*

- ACRL Instruction Section, Instructional Technologies Committee. Winter 2016.
- Rosalinda Hernandez Linares, and Anna Marie Johnson (Univ. of Louisville). "Comparing Apples to Oranges: An Exploration of the Use of Libguides in ARL Libraries." *The Southeastern Librarian* 64.1 (2016): 2-12.
  - Rosalinda Hernandez Linares, Jennifer Starkey, and Ann Marie Smeraldi (Cleveland State Univ.). "It's Not About You: Empathetic Marketing as a Framework for Understanding and Reaching First Year Students." Second National Personal Librarian and First Year Experience Library Conference. Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. 13 May 2016. Plenary session presentation.
  - Alison S. Ricker. Review of *Gender and Climate Change: Impacts, Society, Policy*, by Joanne Nagel. *Choice* 54.2 (2016): 54-0682.
  - Jeremy A. Smith. Review of *Free Jazz/Black Power*, by Philippe Carles and Jean-Louis Comolli, translated by Grégory Pierrot. *Jazz Perspectives* 9.2 (2015): 203-207.
  - Edward Vermue. "Special Collections at Oberlin College Libraries: A Dynamic, Hands-on Approach." Rowfant Club of Cleveland. 25 May 2016. Presentation. •

### *Book Contest, continued from page 4*

as well as foundational theoretical texts, writings by second-wave feminists, works on third-wave feminism, and works of historians seeking to interpret and contextualize women's history.

Student Friends of the Library Coordinator Jesse Gamoran '16, junior Gabrielle Kaufmann, Special Collections Librarian Ed Vermue and Collection Development Librarian Jessica Grim served as judges for the competition. •

### *Alumni Librarian, continued from page 5*

4. It took me a while to get to librarianship because I spent so much time trying to be a faculty member; now that I'm here, I'm very glad that I made that detour, because it helps immensely in communicating with the faculty. I'm much happier and more productive here than I ever could have been as a faculty member. •

### *Digital Resources, continued from page 9*

pronunciation of texts found in oratorios, secular and sacred choral music, cantatas, art songs, and song cycles. Audio recordings by native speakers appear with the original text, word-for-word translation, and the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) Guide. Sound sets include American English, Latin, French, German, and Russian.

*Oxford Bibliographies* is an authoritative guide to reliable peer-reviewed resources and scholarship from many disciplines and topics. Bibliographies are selectively curated and annotated by expert academics and offer high-level overviews that provide novices with a point of entry into unfamiliar areas of study. Oberlin has added one-year subscriptions in political science and linguistics in order to determine interest level and usage among Oberlin students and faculty.

Two new JSTOR collections were purchased this spring. *Arts & Sciences XIV* is strong in political science, language and literature, archaeology, anthropology and Asian studies journals. *Arts & Sciences XV* offers particular strength in Jewish studies and mathematics. •

## Join Us. Be A Friend.

The Friends of the Oberlin College Library provide significant support for special acquisitions and programs that help the library fulfill its fundamental role in the academic life of the college. Members receive the *Library Perspectives* newsletter, invitations to Friends programs, and other privileges. Most of all, Friends have the satisfaction of supporting Oberlin's outstanding library.

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Please return this form with your membership contribution to: Friends of the Oberlin College Libraries, Mudd Center, 148 W. College St., Oberlin, Ohio 44074-1545. Please make checks payable to Oberlin College. Friends contributions are tax-deductible.

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now have a convenient and timely option to receive reminders of Friends' activities and catch glimpses of the lively library life supported by the Friends at [facebook.com/FriendsofOCL](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofOCL). Wendy Wasman '85, Vice President of the Friends of the Library, hopes that the Friends' Facebook page will be a way for Friends to feel connected to the community. Be sure to 'like' the Friends' Facebook page and check back often for news and announcements. •