

# Libra

*A newsletter for faculty and the University community published by the University of Chicago Library with support from the Library Society*



## Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellows

**Explore New Kinds of Scholarship and Expand Career Horizons at the Library**

BY RACHEL ROSENBERG

**A**NEESAH ETTRESS'S GRANDMOTHER, Lena Ettress, was a librarian for most of her life and an active member of the Nation of Islam for some years, who provided Muslim Girl Training and educated women on their role in the Nation. Among the family's treasured possessions are a letter Lena wrote in the 1970s to Minister Louis Farrakhan questioning the supremacy of men over women in the Nation of Islam and another she wrote to the Honorable Elijah Muhammad asking whether the Nation was aligned with "Cassius Clay," who had taken the name Muhammad Ali by that time.

These letters inspired Aneesah, an MDiv student and Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellow in Digital Scholarship, to focus on women's theological discourse in the Nation of Islam when she began developing her digital humanities fellowship

project at the University of Chicago Library.

The new Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellowship program, launched at the Library in winter 2019, is giving University of Chicago students unusual opportunities to expand their professional horizons and enhance their development as scholars. Fellows learn about careers in academic libraries and archives through hands-on work conducted under the mentorship of a UChicago librarian, while simultaneously pursuing their individual research and teaching interests.

With the support of stipends made possible by Hanna Holborn Gray, the Harry Pratt Judson Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of History and President of the University

Aneesah Ettress, a Divinity School student and Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellow in Digital Scholarship (Digital Humanities)

# A RENEWED SENSE OF PURPOSE

BY BRENDA L. JOHNSON, *Library Director and University Librarian*

**The University of Chicago Library staff has begun the academic year with a renewed sense of purpose.** Over the preceding months, we have reviewed our mission and values statements and the Strategic Directions that were developed for 2016-2019 and have worked to develop and articulate our commitments for 2020-2023. While many aspects of our prior mission, values, and strategic directions remain relevant today, our commitment to excelling in a changing environment and to focusing on the needs of our Library users is leading us to work in new ways and to refocus our strategic directions.

I would like to share with you here the key aspects of these statements and a few of the preliminary projects and offerings we are providing as a result of our Strategic Directions.

## Strategic Directions

### 1. Cultivate an Inclusive Community

Our first Strategic Direction is a new focal point. We are building an inclusive organization that cultivates and values diversity, recognizing the strength that it brings to our community and operations. We are proud to be joining the University-wide Diversity and Inclusion Initiative and are beginning to determine how we will participate. Early steps in this process have included bringing Vice Provost Melissa Gilliam to the Library for meetings with Library staff, hosting “Hearing One Another” workshops for Library staff members on our annual Staff Day, and forming a Library Diversity and Inclusion Working Group that has developed a Library diversity statement.

The Library has been recognized in the University’s Summer 2019 diversity report for creating a prayer and meditation space designed to meet

the needs of Muslim students, and for providing workspace for visiting students from the University of Puerto Rico affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

As we develop further plans to cultivate diversity and inclusion, we expect our strategies to include fostering a diverse, inclusive, and culturally competent organization; actively recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce; acting as a strong partner in campus diversity activities; providing welcoming, accessible library spaces and services; and developing inclusive collections.

### 2. Empower Faculty and Students with Library Services, Collections, and Spaces

Our commitment to empowering faculty and students continues. We will advance state-of-the-art research, teaching, and engaged learning by implementing innovative and inclusive services and reimagining library collections and spaces. Just a few of our current offerings include:

- **Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellowships:** Thanks to the generosity of our President Emeritus, this new program is giving University of Chicago graduate students opportunities to expand their professional horizons and enhance



**Brenda L. Johnson**  
*Library Director and University Librarian*

their development as scholars with the guidance of library mentors. I am deeply honored that President Emeritus Gray has recognized the wide variety of ways that Library experts and Library work can contribute to graduate students’ development (see page 1).

- **Geospatial Workshops:** GIS and Maps Librarian Cecilia Smith is offering customized geospatial workshops for research groups in Crerar Library (see our website).

- **Instruction in the Social Sciences:** Librarians are collaborating with faculty to provide customized instruction for students. For example, librarians partnered with the Social Sciences Research Center this summer to create a specialized Research Lifecycle workshop series for undergraduates in the Summer Institute in Social Research Methods (see our website).

### 3. Advance Digital Scholarship

In 2020-2023, our commitment to advancing digital scholarship will continue to grow. We will increase the University’s scholarly impact by building spaces, services, and technologies that facilitate digital approaches to creating, analyzing, preserving, and openly sharing research. Most notably:

- **Building a new Center for Digital Scholarship:** A space on Regenstein’s First Floor between the Dissertation Office and the Circulation Desk will be renovated to create a new physical Center for Digital Scholarship. It will enhance the Library’s current ability to act as a hub for digital scholarship that provides faculty and students with technologies, instruction and consultation services that support the exploration of new research methodologies, analysis of complex data, and sharing of research and creative endeavors through new publishing models (see page 6).

- **Enhancing Open Access to Data and Code:** Knowledge@UChicago, the campus open access digital repository for documents, data, and media, is managed by the Library in collaboration with IT Services. This summer and fall, we have implemented a new system and are adding new capabilities that better meet growing campus needs for open access data sharing and preservation (see page 4).

### 4. Enhance Access to Scholarly Resources

We will connect scholars with resources at the point of need by developing a user-centered, content-rich, integrated discovery environment and by providing fast and convenient access and delivery services.

- **Improving Discovery and Delivery:** We are building tools to improve the discovery of materials—including more than 216 million items—held by our consortial partners in the Ivy Plus and the Big Ten Academic Alliance. We are also building better tools to speed the processing and delivery of Interlibrary Loan requests. To make these and other improvements possible, the Library is participating in a community-driven initiative to develop a next-generation, open-source library management system called FOLIO that will

support our acquisitions, cataloging, and circulation operations.

- **Diversifying Collections:** We are exploring ways of coordinating purchasing with our Ivy Plus partners so that we all have access to more diverse collections.

### 5. Extend the University’s Impact through Local and Global Engagement

The Library continues to engage with local and global partners to extend the University’s impact on pressing challenges in our city, nation, and the world. Some of our current collaborations include:

- **All of Us:** As part of a National Library of Medicine program, librarians from our John Crerar Library and the Chicago Public Library will work together to provide training and access to high-quality online health information for public library patrons, taking an important step to help decrease the life expectancy gap between Chicago’s wealthiest and poorest neighborhoods (see page 9).

- **Black Metropolis Research Consortium (BMRC):** In September, we hired Marcia Walker-McWilliams, PhD’12, as the new Executive Director for the BMRC, a Chicago-based membership association of libraries, universities, and other archival institutions based at the University of Chicago Library with a mission of making broadly accessible its members’ holdings that document African American and African diasporic culture, history, and politics.

### 6. Excel in a Changing Environment

We continue to build an agile, creative, and inclusive organization that values diversity and encourages experimentation, collaboration, bold thinking, and cultural competence in order to meet the needs of the ever-changing academic environment.

## MISSION

The University of Chicago Library empowers intellectual discovery, rigorous learning, and global engagement through its deep and rich collections, extensive expertise, innovative programs, and diverse spaces.

## VALUES

**Diversity:** A diverse and inclusive environment builds a stronger, more creative community.

**User focus:** Our users are at the center of all we do.

**Innovation:** We embrace curiosity, experimentation, and learning.

**Collaboration:** We advance knowledge and build a better future through partnerships.

**Knowledge Sharing:** Open and equitable access to information is a cornerstone of research and education.

- **New librarians** expanding our capabilities include David Woken, our first Latin American and Caribbean Studies Librarian, and Holiday Vega, our new Health and Social Services Librarian (see our website).

- We are in the process of hiring a new **Clinical Library Resident**, who will enhance our ability to support clinical care at UChicago Medicine.

## Transforming Purpose into Action

These examples are only a few of the many ways we are beginning to transform our renewed sense of purpose into action. Some of our directions and corresponding offerings are a continuation of long-held Library commitments. Some directions are driving new approaches to collaborating with you on groundbreaking research, transformative educational experiences, and work that confronts the world’s problems. We look forward to working with you to develop new ways of empowering intellectual discovery, rigorous learning, and global engagement.

# Easy **Data and Code** **Sharing** through Knowledge@UChicago

**P**ROFESSOR DORIAN ABBOT'S RESEARCH explains fundamental problems in earth and planetary sciences using mathematics and computational models. Abbot regularly needs to share data and code associated with his publications to meet the requirements of journals and funding agencies such as the National Science Foundation and NASA. "Sharing data is also a good practice so others can reproduce our results," he explains.

Abbot deposits his data into **Knowledge@UChicago**—an open-source digital repository available to researchers across campus for preserving and making data and software available, along with articles, presentations, dissertations, and reports. Knowledge@UChicago ([knowledge.uchicago.edu](http://knowledge.uchicago.edu)) recently rolled out new features that improve research data and software preservation. First, the new platform integrates with GitHub, an open-source version-control system used for managing and storing revisions of code and files. Researchers can connect a GitHub repository to Knowledge@UChicago and select the automatic preservation of all new code releases. For a researcher interested in linking a specific version of code to a publication, this feature is particularly valuable.

Second, Knowledge@UChicago now collects rich information about research data, facilitating the reuse and understanding of the submitted files. Depositors can point to related research in the repository and on the web by providing a link and the type of relationship between the items, allowing for a connection to be made between a journal article and a supporting dataset or images, for example. Last, as the result of a partnership with the Library and the University's Research Computing Center, Knowledge@UChicago will soon feature an API (application programming interface) that will allow for easy and automatable upload of metadata and data files.

An early adopter of Knowledge@UChicago, Abbot and his co-authors have made several deposits, including data needed to reproduce findings from "The Snowball Stratosphere," code for a simple model of evolution of melt pond coverage on permeable Arctic

Sea ice, and data for the atmospheric circulation and climate of terrestrial planets orbiting sun-like and M dwarf stars.

While there are other ways to share data and code, Abbot finds that the platform and functionalities offered through Knowledge@UChicago often serve him well. "They are very easy to work with, they are free, and they allow you to store a fairly large amount of data," Abbot says. Knowledge@UChicago also conveniently issues a DOI, or digital object identifier, that can be used to cite the submission. An enthusiastic user, he has recommended the digital repository to other faculty members.

The value of Knowledge@UChicago is not limited to researchers in the physical sciences. "More and more often, medical grants are requesting that their awardees make their data available," notes Sam Armato, Associate Professor of Radiology and the Committee on Medical Physics. "National Institutes of Health applications have a section for it." The Library expects that faculty across the sciences, social sciences, and humanities will have data that can be readily shared on Knowledge@UChicago.

The Library, which runs Knowledge@UChicago in collaboration with IT Services, recently migrated the repository to the TIND digital platform, with the support of capital funding for Knowledge@UChicago to better meet growing campus needs and interests around data management, sharing and preservation, open access, and reproducible research results. TIND is based on the Invenio open-source software originally developed at CERN—the European Organization for Nuclear Research—to manage its own digital outputs.

With the TIND migration, the Library has created simple workflows for repository use. Researchers with an active CNetID are able to log in to the repository and create a record using a web form. A member of the Library team reviews the submitted item to ensure that the files can be opened, that there are no privacy or copyright concerns, and that the metadata is sufficient to find and reuse the data.

At this time, the University of Chicago Library is able to accommodate datasets of about 5 GB. Researchers are encouraged to contact [knowledge@lib.uchicago.edu](mailto:knowledge@lib.uchicago.edu) to discuss accommodating datasets that are larger in size.



# Library News Roundup

Visit our website at [lib.uchicago.edu/about/news](http://lib.uchicago.edu/about/news) for more on each of these stories.

## Digital Scholarship

### Starting an Open Source Journal with OJS

THE LIBRARY'S CENTER for Digital Scholarship is offering a new service for UChicago faculty, staff, and students interested in open access publishing. We will provide journal hosting on the Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform, expertise in getting started, and training for editorial boards on the OJS infrastructure. Contact [cds@library.uchicago.edu](mailto:cds@library.uchicago.edu) to schedule a consultation.

### 'Spoken Yucatec Mayan' Online Textbook to be Republished

IN THE MID-1960S a set of Mayan language textbooks was created at UChicago that was used by faculty and students around the world. Originally created in analog form, one of the books, *Spoken Yucatec Mayan*, was eventually turned into a website that was publicly available until last year, when it was taken down due to security concerns connected with its outdated web platform. Today, the Library

is working with Professor John Lucy and the Social Sciences Division to make this critical teaching tool available to future generations on a sustainable platform.

### Williams joins Library of Congress National Digital Strategy Roundtable

UChicago Library's Stacie Williams joined a Roundtable that advises the Librarian of Congress, Carla Hayden, AM'77, PhD'87, and LC Labs on the LoC's digital transformation of collections, services, and access points.

## Exhibits

### Discovery, Collection, Memory: The Oriental Institute at 100

Through December 13  
Special Collections Research Center,  
Regenstein Library

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE—one of the world's premier institutions for the study of the ancient Middle East—has conducted 100 years of excavation, research, and scholarship. Its scholars



Digital North Korean stamps available online:

TOP LEFT: 봉산 탈춤 / The traditional Korean Bongsan masked dance / Pongsan t'alch'um

ABOVE: 위대한 수령 김일성 동지께서 광복의 천리길을 걸으신 90돐 기념 / The 90th anniversary of the One Thousand-ri Journey for national liberation / Widaehan suryöng Kim Il-söng Tongji kkesö Kwangbok üi Ch'ölli Kil üi körusin 90-tol kinyööm

have worked rigorously to discover cultural heritage, decipher ancient languages, and reconstruct the histories of long-lost civilizations. This exhibition remembers the Oriental Institute's past through archival fragments, artifacts, and ephemera as it celebrates its centennial.

### Understanding North Korea through Stamps

Through December 15  
Regenstein Library, Fifth Floor

THE LIBRARY'S EAST ASIAN Collection recently acquired more than 2,000 North Korean stamps, each of which has been digitized and accompanied by a wide range of in-depth data to form the first digital collection of its kind developed by any library worldwide. The full digitized collection is available online at [luna.lib.uchicago.edu/north-korean-stamp-collection](http://luna.lib.uchicago.edu/north-korean-stamp-collection) and an exhibit of selected stamps is on display on Regenstein's Fifth Floor. The Library, led by Korean Studies Librarian Jee-Young Park, has collaborated with staff from the UChicago Visual Resources Center, Korea Foundation Visiting Librarian Intern Jisu Yeom, and East Asian Languages and Civilizations graduate student Ethan Waddell to digitize the collection.

James Henry Breasted in his Haskell Office, ca. 1926. Courtesy of the Oriental Institute Museum Archives. On display in *Discovery, Collection, Memory* exhibition.





# Center for Digital Scholarship Coming to Regenstein's First Floor

BY STACIE WILLIAMS, *Director of the Center for Digital Scholarship*

The University of Chicago Library will be building a new home for its Center for Digital Scholarship (CDS) on Regenstein's First Floor, reimagining much of the space between the Dissertation Office and Circulation. Renovations are expected to be completed by Winter 2021.

While this new Center will provide a focused hub for digital scholarship activity, University of Chicago Library staff are already available to provide a wide variety of workshops, consultations, and services to the University of Chicago community in areas ranging from scholarly communication and digital infrastructure to data management and data publishing. Library staff can collaborate with faculty and train students on use of data and other digital assets at every stage of the digital scholarship lifecycle. For example, faculty can:

## Discover

- Consult with CDS librarians on which of our licensed electronic resources are optimized for textual data mining.
- Explore the Library's historical map collection for use in digital humanities and geospatial projects.

## Acquire/Create

- Leverage acquisitions and technical service librarians' expertise to get help acquiring proprietary or customized datasets from vendors.
- Consult with librarians on strategies and best practices for digitizing large-format materials for research projects.

## Manage

- Work with librarians on developing federally compliant data management and reproducibility plans for Department of Energy, National Science Foundation, or other federally funded grant proposals.

## Analyze

- Work with librarians to develop customized in-class training workshops on ArcGIS and other geolocation tools for use in class research or capstone projects.

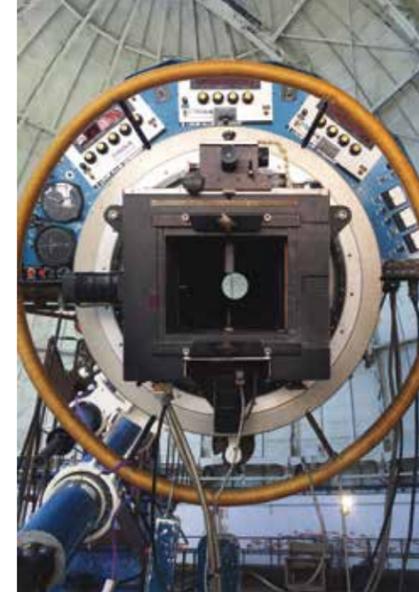
## Share

- Share your research or publish open access through several digital platforms supported by the Library.
- Consult with librarians on strategies for avoiding predatory journals.

## Preserve

- Deposit your research paper, data, or analysis code in the Library's Knowledge@UChicago repository for long-term preservation.
- Work with librarians to create a data rescue or sustainability plan for older digital projects that need to be migrated from obsolete platforms or formats.

*Faculty are encouraged to contact their subject specialists or me at [staciew@uchicago.edu](mailto:staciew@uchicago.edu) to consult on digital scholarship.*



LEFT: This refractor telescope at Yerkes Observatory was used to make some of the historical images. RIGHT: UChicago students Buduka Ogonor (left), Yingyi Liang (right), and Jorge Sanchez (in back) at Yerkes Observatory take an image using the same glass-plate method being studied in the pilot.

# Mining Historical Glass Slides for Astronomical Data

BY ELISABETH LONG, *Associate University Librarian for Information Technology and Digital Scholarship*; BARBARA KERN, *Director of the Science Libraries*; and

RICHARD KRON, *Professor and Assistant Chair for Academic Affairs, Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics; and the College*

A COLLECTION OF 175,000 IMAGES OF ASTRONOMICAL OBJECTS on photographic glass plate slides at Yerkes Observatory offers tremendous potential for both historians of science and astronomers and astrophysicists doing cutting-edge research today. These photographic images, taken over the last 120 years, document historic or periodic events such as novae or comets, as well as providing a basis for studying changes in the night sky. If converted into a usable digital format, they can not only provide more easily accessible glimpses into the scientific heritage of the past but also serve as a treasure trove of valuable information that astronomers can use to make new scientific discoveries.

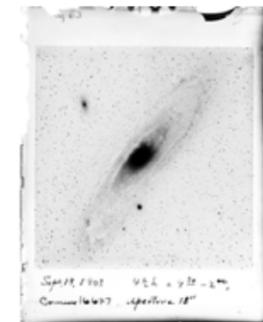
The University of Chicago Library is partnering with faculty and students in the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics to run a pilot study to determine how to scan these slides in a way that will facilitate meaningful scientific inquiry. Significant work has been done in this area by colleagues at Harvard University and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory working with their own 500,000-plate collection, with custom-built equipment. Chicago is now exploring the feasibility of using off-the-shelf digitization technologies by analyzing the level of scientific detail that can be captured and balancing that with the scanning time and resulting data sizes.

Some of the earliest systematic photographic atlases of the sky (more specifically, the region along the Milky Way) were undertaken at Yerkes Observatory and published as paper-print copies of the original negatives. One of these, the Barnard-Calvert atlas, was done in 1905, and the other, from 1933, the Ross-Calvert atlas, was a deliberate repeat to track stars changing in position or brightness. An even earlier series of plates of well-known star clusters, galaxies, and nebulae, from 1901 to 1904, was done by George Ritchey with the revolutionary 24-inch telescope that he built in Chicago.

Thanks to support from the Kathleen and Howard Zar Science Library Fund, the College, and Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, we have engaged a group of seven undergraduate students on the project. In addition to working on the feasibility testing of scanning methods, the students have had a chance to engage with the historical significance of the collections and to get a glimpse into how astronomy was practiced in the past.

Since Winter Quarter 2019, Professor Richard Kron has led regular expeditions

to Yerkes Observatory. On these trips, librarians Elisabeth Long and Barbara Kern have shared their expertise in digital scholarship and science librarianship with the students, working with them to understand the collections and identify sample slides for digitization testing. At the same time, the students have been able to learn how to use the historic telescopes at Yerkes to make observations, to utilize the darkrooms to reproduce some of the significant images, and to use modern tools such as nova.astrometry.net to analyze our testbed images and compare them to the data captured in modern sky surveys such as the Sloan Digital Sky Survey.



A test image from the pilot study on mining astronomical data from historical glass slides.

For the Library, making the data available for research as well as historical memory are top priorities. Archivists Daniel Meyer and Eileen Ielmini are helping to identify glass plates that are representative of the University's cultural history and should be rehoused in the Special Collections Research Center. Sherry Byrne and Christina Miranda-Izguerra in the Library's Preservation Department are working with them on digitization sampling. The findings of the pilot will be translated into a workable project plan that can be used to seek funding for a larger scale project.

of Chicago from 1978 to 1993, the seven inaugural fellows are each learning about particular aspects of scholarship and librarianship and bringing their backgrounds and interests to bear in their work in unique ways.

“I was wondering when I read the letters from my grandmother whether other women in the Nation of Islam had the same questions,” said Ettress, who is collecting materials and creating a digital presentation that will preserve them. Through the research she is conducting for her fellowship project, she plans to explore this and other lines of inquiry. “What is women’s theological discourse in the Nation?” she asks. “Where does it take place? How do these discourses transform—or not—Nation of Islam religious practices and perceptions?”

Ettress has begun her collecting by gathering relevant family documents and keepsakes and by locating an archival website of a Michigan group called “The Nation of Islam

accepted a Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellowship in GIS for Historical Chicago Data. She selected print maps from the Library’s collections, digitized and georeferenced them, created story maps, and published them online for use by researchers worldwide. In doing so, she discovered sociological maps that are allowing her to expand the period covered in her dissertation, which explores the relationship between arts and economic development.

**Ariadne Argyros**, the Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellow in Web Exhibits and an MA student in Middle Eastern Studies, came to the Library with a background in archaeology and museum work, including experience creating physical exhibits. As part of her fellowship, she created three web exhibits drawing on the Library’s special collections on journalist and activist Ida B. Wells, photographer Mildred Mead, and early students at the University of Chicago. Argyros valued the opportunity to choose her own focus in creating exhibits and looks forward to applying



LEFT: Ariadne Argyros created a web exhibit, *A Voice for Justice: The Life and Legacy of Ida B. Wells*. CENTER: The inaugural Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellows. Front row from left: Kevin Irakoze, Ariadne Argyros, Cristina Sakamoto, and Juno Dong. Back row from left: May Peterson, Aneesah Ettress, and Carlos Cisneros. RIGHT: Juno Dong provided research services in Regenstein.

Women Committed to the Truth,” which provides access to recordings of women discussing the Nation’s gender exceptionalist philosophy. She plans to collect additional publications, as well as photographs, letters, ephemera, and interviews with women in the Nation at mosques in Chicago and St. Louis. She will then digitize, map, and annotate the collected materials, creating the digital presentation that will be archived and made available through the Library.

Ettress is using the open-source publishing platform Scalar for her presentation and will be teaching others at the Library how to use Scalar after becoming familiar with the platform.

The Library’s fellowship program is providing an unusual opportunity for Ettress, as a master’s student in Divinity, to get training and mentorship on an extended digital humanities project from an expert in digital scholarship, Stacie Williams. “What I appreciate about this fellowship opportunity are the space and resources both in human and financial capital to pursue open inquiry and develop my technical skills in the digital humanities,” Ettress said. Williams, Director of the Library’s Center for Digital Scholarship, has taught her to build a sustainable and ethical project following the National Endowment for the Humanities Socio-technical Sustainability Roadmap.

Other Fellows are exploring different aspects of librarianship and connections to their own academic interests. For example, PhD candidate in sociology **Cristina Sakamoto**

the skills she developed as she pursues a career in museums.

“We are delighted that President Emeritus Gray has enabled us to provide new opportunities for graduate students and are deeply honored that she has recognized the important role that the Library can play in expanding students’ academic horizons,” said Brenda Johnson, Library Director and University Librarian. “We launched the program and attracted a cadre of Fellows with several aims in mind: to fuel cross-disciplinary ideas and work through digital scholarship, to enhance research skills, to provide experience in planning and delivering instruction, and to foster curiosity about academic careers in libraries and archives. In turn, through the fellowships, the Library has gained the expertise and contemporary perspectives of some of the University of Chicago’s most talented graduate students.”

While Fellows commit to working for a minimum of a quarter, they are also invited to apply for renewals so that they can pursue projects of varying lengths. Following the selection of an inaugural cohort of Fellows, which also included **Kevin Irakoze** as a Fellow in Digital Scholarship (Digital Archival Collections), **Juno Dong** as a Fellow in Library Research Support Services, **May Peterson** as a Fellow in University Archives, and **Carlos Cisneros** as a Fellow in Metadata for the Digital Media Archive, the Library invited new applicants for summer and fall fellowships. In addition to the Hanna Holborn Gray Graduate Student Fellowships, a John Crerar Foundation History of Science and Medicine Fellowship was offered in the summer.

# LIBRARIES TACKLE HEALTH DISPARITIES

by Sharing Medical Information with the Community through ‘All of Us’

RESEARCHERS AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY School of Medicine who analyzed data from the City Health Dashboard have found that Chicago has the nation’s highest gap in life expectancy in its neighborhoods: the data show a 30-year life expectancy gap between the wealthiest and poorest neighborhoods. Working together as a team, librarians from the University of Chicago’s John Crerar Library and the Chicago Public Library (CPL) will provide training on and access to high-quality online health information for patrons, taking an important step to help address this health disparity.

The John Crerar Library has a history of community engagement, providing access to science collections since the Library first opened its doors in 1897. Today, we are bringing expertise and knowledge to the community through the *All of Us* Community Engagement Network Ambassador Program. Through this program, which has awarded the University of Chicago Library \$100,000, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) aims to improve health literacy and access to high quality health information in communities throughout the United States through partnerships with public libraries.

Our goal is to improve Chicago residents’ access to quality health information from the NLM and increase health information knowledge, empowering people in our communities to make informed health decisions. The John Crerar librarians, including Deb Werner, Director of Library Research in Medical Education; Holiday Vega, Health and Social Services Librarian; and a new clinical library resident, as well as a health outreach coordinator, are providing training, including in-person workshops for CPL staff, on how to provide quality health information services and health programming within their community. Training began this summer and will continue throughout the year. The six participating CPL branch libraries include Coleman, Douglass, Humboldt Park, Portage-Cragin, Scottsdale, and West Chicago Avenue.

The John Crerar Library will provide programming to the community by partnering with University of Chicago Medicine programs with national expertise in precision medicine and community health, including the Institute for Population and Precision Health, the Center for Community Health and Vitality, and the Office of Community Engagement and Cancer Disparities. Through a speaker series organized by Crerar and Chicago Public Library staff, leading experts from these institutes and centers will provide critical health information directly to patrons at the selected CPL branch libraries during the fall and spring. In addition, medical students at the UChicago Pritzker School of Medicine, which has a strong community health curriculum, will participate in the program, which may include providing health screenings at various public library branches and distributing information about health services that are provided at student-run medical clinics.

The “All of Us” award is sponsored by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

Debra Werner (center) is one of the Crerar librarians who will empower community members with high-quality health information.



# thank you

**We wish to thank our donors** who have pledged or made gifts, grants, or bequests of \$250 or more between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019, to the University of Chicago Library. Through their generosity, these individuals and organizations have supported the Annual Fund, the Library Society, Library endowments, Library collections, and special projects.

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## A New Chair of the Library Council

THE LIBRARY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE that **Dayna Langfan**, AB'83, has been appointed Chair of the University of Chicago Library Council. Langfan has served as a member of the Council since 2014, and assumed the role of Chair in July 2019. Since that time, she has helped establish the current iterations of the Library Council Nominating Subcommittee and Development Subcommittee.

Langfan succeeds **Patrick Spain**, BA'74, who joined the Council (then the Visiting Committee) in 2014 and served as Chair from 2015 to 2019. Spain has been an active supporter and friend to the Library for more than two decades.

"I would like to thank Patrick for his devotion to the Library and the Library Council," said Brenda Johnson, Library Director and University Librarian. "The Library Council has benefited greatly from Patrick's leadership, fueled by his expertise in the technology industry, coupled with his passion for digitizing older print material to make it available to a wider audience. We are grateful that he will continue on as a member of the Library Council."

Langfan, a native New Yorker, earned her AB in Art History at the University of Chicago and JD at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. After practicing corporate and real estate law, she joined her family's national commercial real estate investment firm, The Langfan Company, where she has been a managing partner for thirty years. She has served as a Board member, Secretary of the Board, and Trustee Emerita of the Horace Mann School, a Treasurer of the National Council of Jewish Women-New York Section, and a co-Treasurer of the Bard High School Early College-Queens PTA. She currently serves as a member of the National Advisory Council of Bard Early Colleges and is a trained facilitator with Parents in Action, an organization dedicated to fostering parental networks and encouraging communication between parents and children at home. A mother of four (one of whom is a graduate of the College), Dayna lives in New York City with her husband, Lawrence Heller, AB '84, MBA '88.



Dayna Langfan, new Chair of the Library Council

## Desiderata

**Please consider a contribution to enhance our collections.**

Librarians are seeking funding for a variety of titles that would be valuable resources for University of Chicago faculty and students. Below is a sampling of these items.

**Henry VIII Songbook.** Intro. by David Fallows. Oxford, UK: Diamm Facsimiles, 2014. A full-color facsimile on heavy matt art paper. As an anthology of mostly secular pieces, it was probably copied in London ca. 1510-1520 and definitely associated with the Court of Henry VIII. In all likelihood it contains the repertory of Henry's own music-making sessions. **\$169**

Martin Codax. **Pergamino Vindel: Cantigas de amigo.** Barcelona, Spain, s.n., 2016. Full-color facsimile. Seven cantigas de amigo (literally, songs for a friend) by 13th-century Galician composer Martin Codax. A genre native to the northwest Iberian Peninsula, these cantigas were sung by maidens awaiting their absent loves. **\$637**

**Der Chansonier von Zeghere van Male.** Stuttgart, Germany: Faksimile-Edition Rara, 2018. Full-color facsimile. This songbook became part of the current public collection after the French Revolution. The manuscript contains 229 compositions, some present only in this source. Colorful drawings adorn each folio. **\$638**

Friedrich Schiller. **Sämtliche Werke, Berliner Ausgabe.** Aufbau-Verlag, 1980-2005. Digital version. Schiller (1759-1805) is best known for his influence on German literature along with his philosophical contributions. His essays helped shape one of the most prolific periods of German philosophy, especially in the field of aesthetics. **\$3,400**

**To support the purchase of one of these titles**, please send a check for the full cost, payable to The University of Chicago, with the title in the comment field, to The Library Society, 1100 East 57th Street, Suite 180, Chicago, IL 60637. You may also call Catherine Niehaus, Development Associate, at 773-702-7695. **Thank you for your generosity.**

For additional titles in need of funding, please visit [lib.uchicago.edu/about/thelibrary/supportus/libsoc/desiderata](http://lib.uchicago.edu/about/thelibrary/supportus/libsoc/desiderata).

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## Library receives 2,700 vintage prints by **VIVIAN MAIER**

**T**HE UNIVERSITY of Chicago Library has received a second donation of vintage prints by celebrated photographer Vivian Maier from collector John Maloof. Few of the 2,700 prints have ever been published or displayed. The collection is now open for research.

The gift includes more than 1,200 black-and-white and 1,400 color prints that Maier made, ranging from her travels around the world to her street photography in Chicago. Because Maier chose to make the prints herself, the collection provides a rare glimpse into her creative process and the photos to which she was drawn.



“This exceptional collection will give researchers and students a more complex understanding of Vivian Maier as a unique figure in 20th-century photography,” said Brenda L. Johnson, Library Director and University Librarian. “We are so pleased that, with the receipt of this magnificent gift from John Maloof, the UChicago Library has the largest collection of Maier photographs held by any museum or library—and the only large collection of Maier’s work that is open to all interested researchers.”

Learn more at [bit.ly/Maier-UChiLib](http://bit.ly/Maier-UChiLib).

