Aneesah 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
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 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, context-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 to support 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 a 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. The mission of making broadly accessible its members’ holdings that document African American and African diasporic culture, history, and politics.
   - New librarians expanding our collaboration: As part of David Wolken, our first Latin American and Caribbean Studies Librarian, and the new Health and Social Services Librarian (see our website).

   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 COLLABORATION

As part of David Wolken, our first Latin American and Caribbean Studies Librarian, and the new Health and Social Services Librarian (see our website).
Easy Data and Code Sharing through Knowledge@UChicago

PROFESSOR DORIAN ABBOT’S RESEARCH explains fundamental problems in earth and planetary sciences using mathematics and computational models. Abbott 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.

Abbott 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—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 files can be opened, that there are no privacy or security concerns connected with its website that was publicly available until May 2019.

At this time, the University of Chicago Library is working with Professor John Lucy and the Social Science Division to make this critical teaching tool available to future generations on a sustainable platform.

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 to schedule a consultation.

’S 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

James Henry Breasted in his Haskell Office, ca. 1926. Courtesy of the Oriental Institute Museum Archives. On display in the Oriental Institute’s past through archival fragments, acts, 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 metadata—enough to form the first digital collection of its kind developed by any library worldwide. The full-digitized collection is available online at .

Digital North Korean stamps available online:
TOP LEFT: 현판발행 / The traditional Korean Rongpan masked dance / Pongpan t’alch’um
ABOVE: 에스에이 남자 김일성 / The 80th anniversary of the One Thousand-ri Journey for national liberation / Wiheahn suryong Kim Il-s˘ ong
TOP LEFT: Bongsan masked dance / Pongsan t’alch’um / The traditional Korean
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 to consult on digital scholarship.

BY STACIE WILLIAMS, Director of the Center for Digital Scholarship

**A COLLECTION OF 175,000 IMAGES OF ASTRONOMICAL OBJECTS on photographic glass plates** 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 were used to analyze star clusters, galaxies, and nebulae. From 1900 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 Elizabeth 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 astrophotography analysis to analyze our testbed images and compare them to the data captured in modern sky surveys such as the Sloan Digital Sky Survey.

For the Library, making the data available for research as well as historical memory are top priorities. Archivists Daniel Mayer 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.
Women Committed to the Truth,” which provides access to recordings of women discussing the Nation’s gender exceptionalist philosophy. She plans to collect additional family documents and keepsakes and by locating an archival family members, allowing her to expand the period covered in her dissertation, and in turn, through the fellowships, the Library has gained the expertise and 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 continue their work in the Library’s collections, digital projects, and at the Library’s center for digital scholarship. A Fellow in University Archives, and Carlos Cisneros. RIGHT: Juno Dong provided research services in Regenstein.


DEBBRA WERNER, Executive Director, Library Research in Medical Education, and BARBARA KERN, Director of the Science Libraries

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 management 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 Jackson, Douglas, Humboldt Park, Portage-Cragin, Scottsdale, and West Chicago Avenues.

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 educational opportunities 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.
We wish to thank our donors who have pledged or made gifts, grants, or bequests of $250 or more between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2019. 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 some titles.

**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 some titles.

- **Henry VIII Songbook.** Intro. by David Fallows. Oxford, UK: Diamm Facsimiles, 2014. A full-color facsimile on Pergamino Vindel: Cantigas de amigo. This songbook became part of the current public collection after the French Revolution. The manuscript was sung by maidens at their lovers' absences.

- **Das Chansonnier von Zeghere van Male.** Stuttgart, Germany: Faksimile-Edition Rara, 2018. Full-color facsimile. This book was part of the current public collection after the French Revolution. The manuscript contains some of the most important songs in this source. Colorful drawings adorn each folio. 1638

- **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 gem relative to the northwest Iberian Peninsula, these cantigas were sung by maidens at their lovers' absences.

- **Friedrich Schiller.** Samtliche Werke, Berlin Ausgabe. Buchanstalt, 1917-1925. Fragmente, Blätter, und Briefe. Friedrich Schiller was best known for his influence on German literature along with his philosophical contributions. His essays and letters set the stage for the development of German philosophy, especially in the field of aesthetics.
THE 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.