Celebration honors Drs. Martin and Sandra Fackler

Their gift endowed the position of the director of the Health Science Center Libraries

Sandra Fackler and Dean of University Libraries Judith Russell unveil the portrait of Drs. Martin and Sandra Fackler with accompanying plaque in the Health Science Center Library on May 6, 2017.

(Continued on page 3)

Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery opens in Smathers Library

The Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery opened in Smathers Library on April 1, 2017 with a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony. Mr. Nahmad established the Panama Canal Gallery Exhibit Fund, named the Gallery and dedicated it to his classmates from Balboa High School Class of 1958. A number of them were able to join him for the opening. The inaugural exhibit, Between Two Oceans, traces the history of the Canal from initial construction through the centennial celebration in 2014 and will remain on display through March 2, 2018. Items on display in the gallery cases are from the Panama Canal Museum Collection at the University of Florida. Dean Russell noted that the opening is a testament to the vision, guidance and contributions of the Executive Council of the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection. See more photos at http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/giving/news/GalleryOpening.

Joseph J. Wood, President, Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection Executive Council; Albert Nahmad, Chairman and CEO Watsco, Inc.; Jane Nahmad; Judith Russell, Dean of University Libraries and Dr. Joseph Glover, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, cut the ribbon to open the gallery on April 1, 2017.
The libraries of the University of Florida form the largest information resource system in the state of Florida and include seven libraries with six being identified as the George A. Smathers Libraries. All of the libraries serve the entire UF community, but each has a special mission to be the primary support of specific colleges and research programs. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of research, students, faculty and scholars may find collections held in one library to serve a specific discipline or constituency to be of great importance to their own research even though they are in a different field.

The historic Smathers Library, built in 1926, houses most of our special collections and area studies materials. By contrast, the newer and recently remodeled Marston Science Library with its high-tech equipment, abundant group study rooms and open spaces, houses the science resources, including agriculture, engineering, and other life sciences and physical sciences. The feel of the buildings might seem very different, but there are similarities and they share a mission of service to the University as well as to the community and scholars who visit in person or access our digital collections remotely.

Each campus library is filled with subject-specific materials but because a large portion of research is completed electronically, students can study in any library and many do study in buildings that may not hold physical materials in their major. Each library has a specific personality and the flexibility to adapt to best serve its primary constituencies. Our libraries may have many faces, but we are still one library system.

Each library offers reference and information desks, some separate and some together. Faculty and staff are readily available to answer questions and help with research. There are subject specialist librarians in every field who are eager to assist and enlighten students, faculty, staff and scholars with resources they have yet to discover. Librarians are an invaluable resource to assist with research data management, perform literature searches, answer reference questions and take recommendations for new books and journals.

If you haven’t visited our libraries recently, I encourage you to come by any of the six Smathers Libraries when you are on campus. I think you will be surprised at the resources, including agriculture, engineering, and other life sciences and physical sciences. The feel of the buildings might seem very different, but there are similarities and they share a mission of service to the University as well as to the community and scholars who visit in person or access our digital collections remotely.

In my time as a student assistant at Marston Science Library I have made a tremendous amount of friendships, working alongside an extremely diverse and talented group of people who have taught and exposed me to many new things. I have grown in my skillset, gaining both expertise and experience while working conveniently on campus. I am certain that these hard and soft skills will carry me through my life, allowing me to become a more dynamic and valuable employee wherever I go. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to continue my education in a real-world work environment.

In responding to the question “How have you learned while working at the George A. Smathers Libraries that will help you achieve your long range goals?” Jessica answered in part:...
**What are they?** Miniature books from the Marjorie Coffey Miniature Book Collection in the Special and Area Studies Collections Department. In hand: Sukie’s Tiny Tepee by E. Halene Sherman; Above: Which Came First by Marjorie S. Coffey.

**Where are they?** Smathers Library and available for viewing in the Grand Reading Room. Ellen Knudson, (352) 273-2754, eknudson@ufl.edu.

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**What is it?** Big Bird’s Big Book is an oversized board book that measures 24” x 16.” It is a children’s classic that student teachers can use with preschool children to teach concepts such as counting, colors and opposites. The book has bright, colorful illustrations featuring familiar Sesame Street characters and heavy cardboard pages that toddlers enjoy reading and playing with.

**Where is it?** Education Library, Rachael Elrod, (352) 273-2627, relrod@ufl.edu.

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**What are they?** Watercolor illustrations from the Abraham Paul Leech Letters and Sketches (1873-1874) which contain 21 letters, 121 pages, plus 10 manuscript poems, totaling 43 pages, all of which are illustrated with 58 watercolors. Letters detail the travel of Abraham Paul Leech and his oldest son Abraham Duryea Leech in Jacksonville, Palatka, Green Cove Springs, and Mellonville, Florida; Savannah, Macon, and Atlanta, Georgia; and Knoxville, Tennessee. Letters are directed home to Leech’s wife and younger son in New York.

Michael Gannon Papers Opening

Michael Gannon, the late Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Florida, was honored at a reception on November 15, 2016 with the official opening of his papers in the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History. He and curator James Cusick, Ph.D., reminisced Dr. Gannon entertained the audience with tales of his early days as a radio commentator. Former President Bernie Machen presented Gannon with the prestigious University Medallion which reads: “Michael V. Gannon. The voice of Florida history for generations of Americans.”

The Michael Gannon Papers include writings, research notes, correspondence, photographs, biographical materials and other papers of Gannon, the noted historian, radio commentator, former priest and emeritus professor. He was an expert on Florida history from its Spanish founding through the U.S. Civil War. A finding aide lists the contents of the collection at www.library.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/gannon.htm. Gannon was the author of numerous books, including Florida, A Short History and Michael Gannon’s History of Florida in 40 Minutes.

Cusick helped Gannon organize his collection last year before he donated it to UF. The Gannon Papers, Cusick said, detail his life’s work, his many books and writings, and his family’s history. The collection benefits the entire state and UF. Michael Gannon died April 11, 2017 in Gainesville, Florida.

Dedication of the Reverend Benjamin Safer Hebrew Book Alcove

The Price Library of Judaica held a dedication event for the Reverend Benjamin Safer Hebrew Book Alcove in the Judaica Suite on February 19, 2017. Generations of Safer’s representing every branch of the family listened to Dr. Edwin Safer as he recounted memories of his grandfather (including his role as the first Rabbi of Jacksonville) together with wonderful stories about the family. The program was followed by tours of the Judaica Suite and the Alcove.

The Reverend Benjamin Safer Digital Collection can be consulted online in the Jewish Diaspora Collection at http://ufdc.ufl.edu/judaica. The physical Reverend Benjamin Safer and Family Collection can be consulted in the Special and Area Studies Collections Department, Smathers Library.

Recently published books by Smathers Libraries faculty and staff

3D Printing: A Practical Guide for Librarians
Sara Russell Gonzalez and Denise Beaufien Bennett
Planning and implementing a 3D printing service in a library may seem like a daunting task. Based upon the authors’ experience as early adopters of 3D technology and running a successful 3D printing service at the Marston Science Library, this guide provides the steps to follow when launching a service in any type of library.

Implementing and Assessing Use-Driven Acquisitions: A Practical Guide for Librarians
Steven Carrico, Michelle Leonard and Erin Gallagher with contributions by Trey Shelton
This enlightening new book presents the practicalities of developing, implementing and evaluating use-driven acquisition (UDA) in academic and special libraries, from the multi-dimensional perspectives of collections, acquisitions and e-resources. Now that UDA is a proven method of collection management being utilized by an array of libraries around the globe, the need for a straightforward, uncomplicated guidebook is more essential than ever.

Collaborative Grant-Seeking: A Practical Guide for Librarians
Bess G. de Farber
A collaborative approach to grant seeking can stimulate and reshape the culture of a library organization. The exciting and rewarding activities of developing a successful grants program can yield enormous dividends for the benefit of staff, patrons and community. Collaborative...
Dear Friends of the Smathers Libraries:

It is my honor and pleasure to continue in the position as your President of the Library Leadership Board for the fourth year. We will continue our cooperation with Dean Judith Russell and our Senior Director of Development, Sterling Garcia, to support the Libraries’ mission of excellence in providing scholarly resources and research services for the University of Florida. We thank all of our Friends for their support through donations and in-kind gifts. It is through you that we are able to keep our Libraries as one of the best in the nation.

As Spring begins in Gainesville and we enjoy the beauty the season brings, we look forward to continuing our quest for academic and athletic excellence. As a Top Rated National University, we strive to provide facilities that are commensurate with the quality of the institution. Combining this with the needs of our students, the University has completed two projects: the reopening of Newell Hall, a Learning Center and Student Commons and the redesign of Plaza of the Americas providing special event areas, courtyards and pedestrian thoroughfares.

In this spirit, The Libraries have embarked on an exciting new project, the future construction of the new Library West Colonnade. This larger and more functional space designed by Brame Heck Architects will provide an enhanced outdoor environment for students at Library West, the humanities and social sciences library. The seating capacity of this space and adjoining terraces will be 296 with 218 at tables and 78 on benches. The new Colonnade will have a skylight, large ceiling fans, and charging stations at most tables and along the brick walls. Solar panels will provide electricity and wireless Internet will be available. Our new Gator Sculpture, housed currently on the third floor of Library West, will greet the millions of visitors to this space annually. This Gator’s mission will be to provide good luck to all of our students who are studying for exams at Library West. Naming opportunities for tables and benches are still available and we encourage you to take advantage of this amazing opportunity to be a part of the future of our Libraries.

We continue to be a part of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Challenge Grant that will directly support the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica, considered the foremost Jewish studies research collection in the Southeast United States. The Judaica Suite opened in 2014 on the second floor of Smathers Library. The Challenge Grant will end in June 2019. In order to secure the full federal award of $500,000 we must meet our annual goals through fundraising.

We hope you will continue your support of our Libraries’ endeavors as we strive to create a first class learning environment for our students and be a source of pride to all Gators past, current and future.

Sincerely,

Steve Pliskow
President, Library Leadership Board