

A Note from the Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As the 2016-17 academic year has concluded, we look back on some important milestones for the University Libraries.

January marked our first year anniversary of the opening of the new Fenwick Library expansion, which we were pleased to see featured in the *American Libraries* magazine, published by the American Library Association, for their 2016 Library Design Showcase.

Our faculty and staff continue to impress us with their talent, dedication, and professional accomplishments - most recently, two of our colleagues received the H.W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant, administered by the American Library Association.

And, overall, it was a full spring semester, with hundreds of instructional sessions, new exhibitions, the annual Fenwick Fellow lecture, three Mason Author Series events, and the Gilbert & Sullivan forum.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of the University Libraries.

Sincerely,
John G. Zenelis

A Celebration of Gilbert & Sullivan



On Saturday, April 29, the University Libraries and the College of Visual and Performing Arts co-hosted a day-long event surrounding the David and Annabelle Stone Gilbert & Sullivan Collection.

“A Celebration of Gilbert & Sullivan” included a guided tour of three exhibition galleries featuring items from the Stone Collection in Fenwick Library; a scholarly forum examining the life, works, and

influence of Gilbert & Sullivan; a Friends of Music dinner; and a delightful performance of *Iolanthe* by Mason Opera.

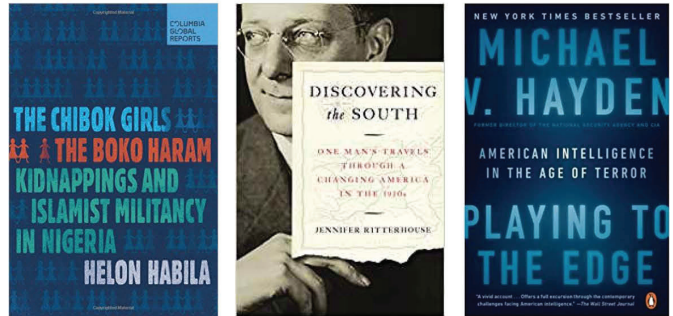
Exhibitions are still on view in the Fenwick Library and at the Hylton Performing Arts Center through May. A permanent online exhibition has also been created at <http://gilbertandsullivan2017.gmu.edu/>.

Mason Author Series

The University Libraries continued its Mason Author Series this spring with three excellent programs by Mason faculty members.

Helon Habila, Associate Professor of Creative Writing, discussed *The Chibok Girls*, his compassionate and powerful account of one of the the most horrific recent tragedies in Nigeria. Jennifer Ritterhouse, Associate Professor of History, discussed *Discovering the South*, her new book examining the South's cultural and political climate in the 1930s.

And, General Michael V. Hayden, Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Schar School of Policy and Government, discussed *Playing to the Edge*, his examination of American intelligence drawn from his time as director of both the NSA and CIA.



The Mason Author Series, sponsored by the George Mason University Bookstore, highlights significant publications of George Mason University faculty and alumni. Stay tuned for next year's line up!

Faculty/Staff Accolades

We have a group of very talented faculty and staff here at the Libraries. We are pleased to announce that Jessica Bowdoin (Head, Access Services) received the 2017 Distinguished Librarian Faculty Award; Katara Wright (Information Servies) received the 2017 Library Staff Excellence Award; and that Kuncharee (Jib) Vititpongs (Resource Description & Metadata Services) also received the 2017 Library Staff Excellence Award.

Recently, many of our faculty and staff were recognized for their years of service (from five to twenty-five) to George Mason University and/or the Commonwealth of Virginia.

To read about the numerous activities of the Libraries' faculty and staff, please visit our Accolades page at <http://library.gmu.edu/about/accolades>.

Congratulations to the Libraries' Student Assistants and Graduate Research Assistants* who are Graduating!



From Access Services: Gillia Baatai, Rachelle Faust, Harrison Peek, Mason Seaman

From Gateway: Sarah Ho

From Information Services: Megan (Meggie) Nelson, Angela Anniballi, Pratik Shinde*

From Resource Description & Metadata Services: Youssef Faragalla, Nam Nguyen

From Special Collections Research Center: Emily Curley*, Brittney Falter

Mason's First Annual Giving Day

Thank you to the Libraries' faculty and staff, friends and donors, and the broader Mason community for their support of the Libraries and of Mason during Mason's first annual Giving Day on April 6.

We are particularly grateful for a generous challenge gift made by a Mason alumna ('74) and former student assistant in the university's then only Library - Fenwick Library - in support of our new initiative: the University Libraries' Student Assistant Scholarship Endowment.

It was an exciting 24 hours at the university, with over 1,200 donors from 39 states and five countries contributing over \$188,000 in support of endeavors across the university.

For a full report of projects and gifts made, please visit <http://fasterfarther.gmu.edu/news/giving-day-2017-report/>.



University Libraries

Office of the Dean and University Librarian
Fenwick Library, Suite 4300
4400 University Drive, MS 2FL
Fairfax, VA 22030
Phone: 703-993-2491
Web: library.gmu.edu
E-mail: library@gmu.edu
Support: library.gmu.edu/support