

George A. Smathers Libraries

ANNUAL REPORT

Academic Year 2019 – 2020

A detailed wood relief carving on a wooden door. The carving depicts a Florida landscape. In the upper left, a sun with rays is partially obscured by a cloud. In the upper right, a manatee is shown swimming. The middle section features several palm trees. In the lower right, a large alligator is depicted with its mouth open, showing its teeth. The entire scene is carved into the wood of the door.

UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA

DEAN'S MESSAGE



JUDITH C. RUSSELL
Dean of University Libraries

It is my pleasure to present the George A. Smathers Libraries 2019-2020 Annual Report. I have served as Dean of the George A. Smathers Libraries since 2007 and am proud of the efforts we have made to connect UF students, faculty and staff to library resources, services and expertise despite the challenges presented this year by a global pandemic.

Prior to Covid-19, our Libraries annually welcomed more than 4.5 million visitors to the Libraries and nearly 5.5 million visitors to our website. When we closed our doors on March 19, 2020 to keep employees and patrons safe, we transformed our services to reach an entirely remote audience. The Libraries immediately experienced an increase in usage of the Ask A Librarian chat reference service and began delivering instruction services via Zoom. We continued video streaming and e-book acquisition, along with enhancement of our collections through expanded partnerships and initiatives, including HathiTrust.

This report highlights the extraordinary efforts of our Smathers Libraries community. I want to thank the Smathers employees for continuing to advance knowledge at this critical time. I also want to thank the extended Smathers community who supported the Libraries through partnership, collaboration and patronage.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith C. Russell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

BY THE NUMBERS

Covid-19

On March 19, 2020, the George A. Smathers Libraries closed our doors due to Covid-19 in order to prioritize the health and safety of our community. Despite the building closures, we were proud of our ability to provide virtual services that continued to meet the academic and research needs of faculty, staff and students. Our buildings eventually re-opened for the Fall semester of academic year 2020-2021 with socially-distanced study spaces for the limited students returning to campus.

Ask A Librarian

Ask A Librarian is a live virtual reference service that offers online reference assistance to patrons.

854% increase in usage from the same time period in the previous year (January through June).

Instructional Sessions

Librarians taught information literacy workshops on how to locate material on their topic.

42% increase in workshops taught in 2020, compared to the previous year.

Keeping Everyone Safe

During Covid-19, the Libraries reduced seating to accommodate social distancing and increased signage and security. UF provided extra precautions to sanitize the buildings. The Libraries also provided students with a new web page for selecting study locations. The Libraries purchased more than **3,000 masks**, **600 pairs of gloves**, **9,400 disinfecting wipes**, **116 individual hand sanitizers**, and **597 quarts of sanitizer**.

Library support for campus-wide development of PPE equipment

Randell Duggins, Jr. was awarded a Division 3 UF Superior Accomplishment Award for his innovation and initiative to develop



and produce personal protective equipment (PPE) for the Libraries, UF researchers, UF Health Shands, the Veteran's Administration and North Florida Regional Medical Center hospitals. Starting in March 2020, Randell played an integral role on a campus-wide team of engineers and fabrication facilities, led by the College of Engineering. Randell became the go-to 3D modeler, asked to step beyond his normal responsibilities and expertise to develop and 3D print customized models, including masks and respirators for UF Health Shands anesthesiologists.

His most significant contribution was in designing and printing the nasal swabs used in UF's COVID-19 testing. UF Health could not procure enough swabs to test all campus employees so Randell was asked to evaluate a 3D printed swab model being developed at the University of South Florida. He iteratively modified the 3D digital model to meet UF Health's specifications that it had to be a certain length and diameter for the swab shaft to snap cleanly in the available tubes.



BY THE NUMBERS

Traffic and Branch Details

Total square footage, seating, visitors

Square footage: **490,649**

Seating: **5,506**

Total Visitors: **3,313,317** (29% fewer visitors)

*Prior to closing on March 19, the anticipated annual visitor total was expected to be more than 4.7 million.



**Architecture &
Fine Arts Library**
Seating: 124
Visitors: 45,806



Education Library
Seating: 604
Visitors: 118,563



**Health Science Center
Libraries (Gainesville)**
Seating: 869
Visitors: 350,063



Library West
Seating: 1,573
Visitors: 880,482



Marston Science Library
Seating: 2,105
Visitors: 1,584,992



Smathers Library
(includes the Grand Reading
Room, Panama Canal Gallery,
Map & Imagery Library,
Judaica Suite, and the Latin
American & Caribbean
Collection)
Seating: 231
Visitors: 205,418



The George A. Smathers Libraries work collaboratively with 10 Affiliate Libraries to provide access to significant specialized collections. This year, the Smathers Affiliate Libraries program added two new libraries: the **Plant Diagnostic Center Library** and the **City-Lab Orlando Library**. At left is Agricultural Sciences Librarian Suzanne Stapleton with a student in the Plant Diagnostic Center Library.

BY THE NUMBERS

Expenditures

UF Libraries Expenditures

\$20,575,209

People (salaries, wages and fringe)

\$14,677,194

Collections

\$4,775,644

Other operating expenses

\$40,028,047

Total expenditures

\$908

Average expenditures per full-time student

257 Total full-time staff

Grants

12

Newly awarded grants

\$1.35 million

Total grant funding received

13

Funding agencies: 1 state, 5 federal, 2 international, 3 internal and 2 private

45

of employees serving on a grant

Highlights

Textbook Affordability Project

With the annual cost of textbooks averaging more than \$900 a year per student, the Libraries feel it is an important mission to provide textbook availability. Mike and Janet Carroll provided a gift of \$100,000 to support as many students as possible. The Libraries identified classes with more than 100 students enrolled and purchased print or electronic textbooks for access through the Libraries' Course Reserves service. In the Fall 2019 semester, the Libraries piloted a proactive textbook purchasing project for high-enrollment STEM courses to purchase 60 texts. Students accessed titles over 1,500 times during the course of the semester.

Academic Research Consulting and Services (ARCS)

ARCS partnered with Research Computing to develop a program providing HiPerGator and ResVault access to students without research funding. The new Systematic Review Librarian and Reproducibility Librarian joined the team. In support of the university's Artificial Intelligence (AI) initiative, ARCS formed a group to explore potential library services in this space.

Awards



Rebecca Jefferson, Ph.D., Curator of the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica, Special and Area Studies Collections, named to the Task Force on Holocaust Education by Richard Corcoran, Commissioner of Education for the Florida Department of Education.

Laura Spears, Ph.D., Director, Assessment and User Experience, installed as the President of the Florida Library Association for 2020-2021.



Margarita Vargas-Betancourt, Ph.D., Latin American & Caribbean Special Collections Librarian, Special and Area Studies Collections, named one of 15 prestigious Rare Book School-Mellon Cultural Heritage Fellows for 2020-2022.

BY THE NUMBERS

Collections, Digital and Interlibrary Loan

6,271,958

Total volumes

1,873,775

Total digital items

80,702

Total e-journals

1,500,458

Total e-books

8,190,753

Books and other items checked out

6,410

Loans to other libraries

19,998

Loans from other libraries

857,585

Digitized items held in UF Digital Collections

LibraryPress@UF

Florida Online Journals (Florida OJ) currently provides access to more than 18 journals that are managed by the University of Florida. New titles that were added include

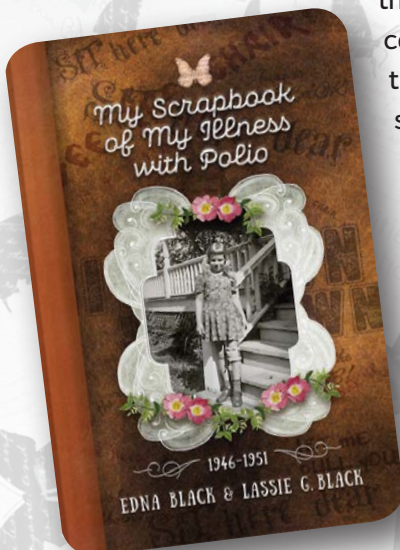
“The Journal of Assessment in Higher Education”

(**JAHE**), an open-access, semi-annual publication that presents articles on current philosophy, research, teaching, learning and scholarship in higher education assessment.



My Scrapbook of My Illness with Polio by Edna Black and Lassie G. Black; Contributing editor: Nina Stoyan-Rosenzweig. Polio, an infectious disease caused by a virus, became epidemic in the United States in

the early to mid-20th century. Recounted in the form of a journal, this story about Edna Black Hindson's childhood does a wonderful job making the experience of polio come alive.



Art in the Libraries

Elevator interior mahogany carvings originally from Office in the Grove, Miami, Florida, 1973 (cover images)

Office in the Grove was designed by architect and artist Kenneth Treister, FAIA. The mahogany panels were removed and donated to the Smathers Libraries when the building was sold in 2014. The panels are featured in a large conference room in Library West.

Silver and copper elevator doors originally from Office in the Grove, Miami, Florida, 1973

The elevator doors were also designed by Kenneth Treister and donated to the Smathers Libraries in 2014. They are displayed on the first floor of the Marston Science Library.

The building's internal ornamentation depicting Florida flora and fauna, and in particular the nearby Everglades, are welcome additions to Art in the Libraries.



BY THE NUMBERS

Graduate Internships

Exploring the Work and Times of Cuban Intellectuals in the Nineteenth Century

Led by Paula de la Cruz Fernandez

The student created a website, Cuba: Pearl of the Caribbean, that examines the historical context of key Cuban thinkers of the nineteenth century as well as the relevance and main themes of their work.

<http://cubanthinkers.domains.uflib.ufl.edu/>



Equitable and Inclusive Library Publishing

Led by Chelsea Johnston

As the LibraryPress@UF (LP@UF) program grows, it is crucial that it explicitly considers how to implement inclusive practices at each stage of our workflow, from soliciting new ideas to connecting finished projects with their audiences. Working with the Smathers Graduate Intern in Equitable and Inclusive Library Publishing, LP@UF staff identified practices in inclusive publishing to implement in our program and suggest to our wide range of stakeholders. The student also contributed to ongoing efforts to offer recommendations for ways LP@UF editors and authors can promote diversity, equity and inclusion in their publications, with a focus on journal publishing. These efforts will be published by the LP@UF in an open access guide in late 2021. Featured chapters include transparency in editorial practices, creating accessible content, and peer review and implicit bias.



Open Access Journal Management

Led by GiNESSa Mahar

The internship focused on the recent revival of a University of Florida publication, the "Florida Journal of Anthropology" (FJA). It introduced a graduate student to open access publishing of a peer-reviewed journal, website design, journal marketing and digital archiving all embedded within a library setting.

<https://journals.flvc.org/NFJA>



BY THE NUMBERS

Special Collections & Area Studies

Noteworthy Acquisitions

Kehila Comunidad Israelita Uruguay

The Price Library of Judaica will make thousands of Yiddish and Spanish works globally accessible. Purchased in 2018 from the *Kehila Comunidad Israelita Uruguay*, the collection offers a unique record of a South American Jewish community's intellectual and cultural heritage through what they collected and read. The materials include about 6,000 items, such as rare and unusual imprints, as well as complete run of the community's weekly newsletter, *Semanario Hebreo*.

<http://ufl.to/kehilauruguay1> (page 2)

<http://ufl.to/kehilauruguay2> (page 1)

Sea Change, Anne Covell, 2019

Anne Covell created the artist's book *Sea Change* during her Fall 2019 Coffey Residency in Books Arts. Inspired by Covell's research and study of Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Florida in the Map & Imagery Library, *Sea Change* adapted this system of mapping as a form of catastrophe modeling, projecting sea level rise on the Florida peninsula. *Sea Change* was a semi-finalist for the 2020 Minnesota Center for Book Arts Prize, an international biennial award.

<http://ufl.to/covell>



The Original Pirates of the Caribbean

One of the foundational works on Caribbean piracy, *Bucaniers of America* (1684) is the first English translation of Esquemelin's account of his time as a merchantman and crew member of the English privateer Henry Morgan. Part sea story, part ethnography and part travelogue, UF faculty have featured this work in new courses on the Caribbean. Through virtual instruction, it is also part of courses on historical methods at other Florida institutions.



<http://ufl.to/bucanierscaribbean>

The Early Modern Anatomical Table

Andreas Vesalius's diagrams of the human body are some of the most iconic and significant images in the history of early modern medicine. The *Epitome of Human Anatomy* provided the first illustrated manual for medical students to learn (or learn from) the practice of human dissection, a controversial practice in the sixteenth century. Our edition (1617) shows how editors and printers adapted this essential work almost from the time of its first printing in 1543.

<http://ufl.to/humananatomy>

BY THE NUMBERS

Special Collections & Area Studies

Noteworthy Acquisitions

Ellis B. McDaniel (Bo Diddley)

The Ellis B. McDaniel Collection reflects the musical genius of the performer better known as Bo Diddley. From guitars and stage costumes to photographs and archival material, the collection makes it possible to research vital aspects of the origins of rock and roll. The “Bo Diddley Beat” lies at the heart of today’s rock and roll music and influenced hip hop and other emerging genres. Known as “The Originator,” Bo Diddley designed his signature rectangular guitar produced by Gretsch and innovated with acoustic equipment and techniques.

<http://ufl.to/bodiddley>

Bob Hope

The Bob Hope Collection documents the eight-decade career of a global superstar of American entertainment. Hope left an indelible mark on the entertainment industry through his work in vaudeville, Broadway theatre, radio, television, recording and film. The collection contains an array of scrapbooks, photographs, documents, posters, stage costumes, awards, artifacts and one-of-a kind memorabilia. Bob Hope’s performances for the U.S. military were legendary, as were his commitment to philanthropy and visits to college campuses, including UF.

<http://ufl.to/bobhope>

United States Senator Bill Nelson

Former U.S. Senator Bill Nelson’s decades-long career and the growing role of Florida in the nation is documented in the Libraries’ sixth collection of congressional papers. Nelson placed on deposit with UF his papers and materials related to politics and space flight. The collection brings together more than a quarter million electronic records and 800 boxes of materials. UF maintains one of the largest groupings of political papers among universities in the United States.

<http://ufl.to/billnelsonpapers>

Social Justice and University Archives

University Archives began documenting protests over the killing of George Floyd and for the Black Lives Matter Movement through photographs and collecting endangered artifacts near campus in the summer of 2020. Memorials, protest signs and messages left at the 13th Street and University Avenue gateway will be preserved as original materials or photographs. A team of librarians photographed the memorials and also murals painted at the 34th Street wall, with a graduate intern continuing the work into the next year.

<http://ufl.to/campusmemorial>

West Indian Experience

The Panama Canal Museum Collection and Pan Caribbean Sankofa collaborated to document West Indian contributions to the Panama Canal. Narrated by people of West Indian descent, the oral histories preserve the history, culture and diaspora experiences of Caribbean people and their descendants. Pan Caribbean Sankofa conducts each interview, and the Libraries preserve and provide access to the oral histories through the Panama and the Canal Oral Histories Collection in the Digital Library of the Caribbean.

<https://dloc.com/ohpcm> <http://ufl.to/sankofa>

BY THE NUMBERS

Exhibits and Events

The Smathers Libraries have an active exhibition program that shares, interprets and promotes the collections. The Libraries also create and host online exhibitions which complement physical exhibitions and highlight the collections.

Photo Reporter: The Martin Harris Collection

Photographer Martin Harris was an eyewitness to the history and culture of the mid-20th century. He recorded images of Depression-era labor unrest for *PM New York*, the horrors of World War II for *Stars and Stripes* and the stars of stage screen, radio and television for *Collier's Magazine*, *Life Magazine* and the *Saturday Evening Post*.

Online exhibit: <http://ufl.to/martinharris>

Operation Just Cause

Operation Just Cause, the United States Invasion of Panama, took place between mid-December 1989 and late January 1990.

Online exhibit: <http://ufl.to/justcause>

Documenting Presence: Panama Canal Portraits 1909-1955

The photos in this online exhibit capture not only images of laborers, visitors, employees' families and visiting celebrities, but also the impressive size and vast landscape of the Canal.

Online exhibit: <http://ufl.to/documentingpresence>

Black Thursday: UF's Black Campus Movement

Organized by the UF Black Student Union (BSU), 70 students marched into President Stephen O'Connell's office April 15, 1971. They demanded equal and fair treatment for UF's Black students and employees. This exhibit honors those Black students who were at the forefront of social and racial justice activism at UF and the United States.

Online exhibit: <http://ufl.to/blackthursday>

Are We Next? Fear and Social Roles in WWII

March 7, 2020 – February 1, 2022

Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery

This exhibit was developed spring 2019 as part of the graduate Exhibitions Seminar in Museum Studies taught by Lourdes Santamaría-Wheeler. It was driven by student inquiry and has been an experiment in collaborative exhibition development processes.

Living in the Canal Zone and surrounding area was a unique experience as the threat of war increased. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, war saturated everyday life. Many were surprised that Pearl Harbor was attacked before the Canal, yet it made potential threats even more a reality. Fear shaped expectations of what it meant to be a patriot, a soldier, a civilian or a person of color.



BY THE NUMBERS

Exhibits and Events



John David Ridge: A Life in Costume

January 21, 2020 – April 27, 2020
Smathers Library Gallery

John David Ridge (born 1945) has worked as a costume designer, costume maker and costume supervisor on stage, film and television. The exhibition included highlights from his career including work with The Joffrey Ballet, Halston and Julie Andrews, as well as costume design for the Spider-Man trilogy (2002–2007).

The opening event for the exhibit featured speaker John David Ridge on January 22, 2020.



Revealing a Hidden History: Coral Way, the First Publicly Funded Bilingual Program in the United States

February 19, 2020
Smathers Library, Room 100

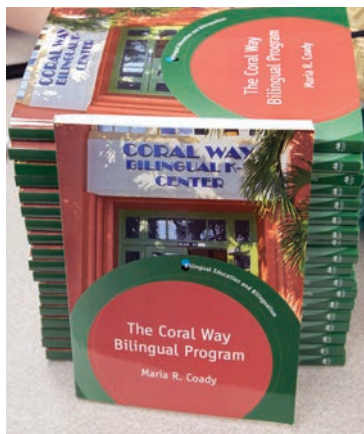
Dr. Maria Coady is an associate professor of English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Bilingual Education and the Irving and Rose Fien Endowed Professor of Education at UF. She shared insights about her book *The Coral Way Bilingual Program*, which narrates the Miami, Florida school's history. The talk featured guest speakers, including a Smathers Libraries employee, who shared how their experiences attending Coral Way impacted their lives and how the school changed bilingual education throughout the United States. Also presented as an online exhibit called *Pioneering Bilingualism | Bilingüismo Pionero*.
<https://ufdc.ufl.edu/coralway>



Nelson Initiative on Ethics and Leadership: Political Division in America with author Jon Meacham and former U.S. Senator Bill Nelson

January 23, 2020
Smathers Library Grand Reading Room

Former Senator Nelson, whose collection of papers and historical materials are on deposit with the Smathers Libraries, hosts public interviews and conversations with noted political leaders and authors. through the Nelson Initiative on ethics and Leadership. This conversation was with Jon Meacham, a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, reviewer and presidential biographer. Meacham holds the Carolyn T. and Robert M. Rogers Endowed Chair in American Presidency at Vanderbilt University.





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