

# SMU LIBRARIES

# impact

IMPACT REPORT 2024–25



**SMU**







# WHERE TRADITION MEETS

# *innovation*

The story of SMU Libraries is one of transformation and purpose — we are where tradition meets innovation. We are not only the heart of the university, but we are also the heart of discovery at SMU, advancing knowledge through exceptional collections, forward-thinking teaching, and collaborative research support. By embracing emerging technologies and championing academic excellence, we ensure our students and scholars are equipped to lead, discover and make a lasting impact in Dallas and beyond.

To fully reflect the upward trajectory of SMU Libraries — and the Mustang Momentum fueling this ascent — we're now sharing our year in review through a newly redesigned Impact Report, aligning with the Libraries' commitment to innovation, discovery and excellence.

“

We ensure our students and scholars are equipped to lead, discover and make a lasting impact in Dallas and beyond.”

As you'll see in the pages ahead, SMU Libraries has harnessed this momentum to achieve meaningful progress, securing significant grants that deepen our connections locally, nationally and globally; leading advancements in artificial intelligence in collaboration with SMU faculty and students; offering exclusive engagement opportunities for our supporters and boards; and more. With our work for 2024–2025 now complete, we believe this groundbreaking year has laid the foundation for even greater success ahead.

This report was created with the SMU Libraries Strategic Plan in mind and features stories which align with each of our goals. We hope that you enjoy learning about the work of the Libraries, and that you will join us in becoming part of the SMU Libraries story.

**HOLLY E. JEFFCOAT**

Dean of SMU Libraries



# THE LILLY ENDOWMENT AWARDS \$2.5 MILLION GRANT TO

## *Bridwell Library*

Exciting changes are ahead for one of the SMU Libraries. The Lilly Endowment, a philanthropic foundation dedicated to community development, education and religion, has awarded Bridwell Library a \$2.5 million grant through the foundation's Religion and Cultural Institutions Initiative, which has provided awards to only thirty-two institutions besides SMU. The grant will support the enhancement of exhibition spaces and preservation of special collections at Bridwell, as well as enable accessibility initiatives and hands-on academic and research experiences for library visitors.

The grant will enable such projects as the renovation of the Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Galleries; the partial reconfiguration of the current "Blue Room" to accommodate the World Methodist Museum collections; the construction of an antiquities museum to exhibit special collections, some of which are currently on display at the Dallas Museum of Art; and the development of a state-of-the-art historic printing and paper making lab.

"The Lilly grant will enable Bridwell Library to enhance its legacy of printing history, as well as expand more deeply into the global development of papermaking, which we'll now be able to teach in these new spaces. The antiquities museum and enhanced gallery spaces will also be a draw to the public, who we hope will want to visit and engage with our collections," says Anthony Elia, J.S. Bridwell Foundation Endowed Librarian and director of Bridwell Library.

The planning for these changes at Bridwell has been in the works for some time. The Lilly Endowment's initial \$100,000 planning grant enabled Bridwell's strategic research of the newly conceived spaces, through an extensive study of museum, exhibition, and conservation lab spaces around the world. The study of over 100 museums, libraries, cultural institutions, printing shops and papermaking studios informed the planning of Bridwell's upcoming renovations, providing key elements of the design process for architects providing conceptual drawings of Bridwell.

With this grant and the opportunities it provides, Bridwell Library is well-equipped to preserve history and the arts in a technological age, while providing exceptional educational and research experiences for all who visit.

"The updates at Bridwell will ensure its prominence as a library at the forefront of change, and SMU Libraries eagerly anticipates the positive impact it will have on the Hilltop and beyond," says Holly E. Jeffcoat, Dean of SMU Libraries. The future is bright for the SMU Libraries, with exciting changes ahead.



“

The updates at Bridwell will ensure its prominence as a library at the forefront of change, and SMU Libraries eagerly anticipates the positive impact it will have on the Hilltop and beyond.”

HOLLY E. JEFFCOAT

## BY THE NUMBERS

# 1,099

total Special Collection interactions

# 953,391

items accessed in SMU Scholar

## DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

# 3,842

total digitized primary resources uploaded

# 85,580

total items in SMU Libraries Digital Collections

# 606,101

total page views



## Leveraging research expertise

**AS THE HEART OF DISCOVERY, THE SMU LIBRARIES ARE EVOLVING INTO DYNAMIC HUBS OF RESEARCH INNOVATION**, where cutting-edge technology meets collaborative scholarship to transform the way knowledge is created and shared.

Carrie Johnston, director of research and scholarly initiatives, plays a key role in this transformation. Together with Megan Heuer, director of educational initiatives, Carrie launched the AI, Research and Instruction Team at SMU Libraries, helping define and promote how library services support the university's engagement with generative AI and emerging technologies.



Building on her background in digital scholarship and humanities research, Carrie was recently awarded a \$350,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. As project manager of the Maria Edgeworth Letters Project, she leads a team working to expand the digital archive of the 19th-century novelist's correspondence, advancing scholarship in literature and cultural history. The project underscores her commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration, digital

research infrastructure and the evolving role of technology in shaping scholarly communication — principles that continue to guide her work across campus.

Leveraging this research expertise, Carrie spearheaded the AI for Research Summer Cohort, which brought together 13 faculty members from nine disciplines to explore AI-powered research tools and foster collaboration between faculty and librarians in developing best practices for integrating these technologies into academic workflows. To further strengthen these connections, Carrie and her colleagues launched the *Research and Teaching Spotlight* newsletter — targeted at faculty, graduate students, postdocs and staff — to showcase research innovation within the Libraries.

The Research and Scholarly Initiatives team builds on this momentum by supporting future scholars, partnering with the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and the Dedman College Interdisciplinary Institute, offering workshops, fellowship support and more. By fostering these collaborative opportunities, SMU Libraries ensures sustained growth and development in scholarly excellence for years to come.





## Reimagining research education

**INFORMATION LITERACY IS THE ABILITY TO FIND, EVALUATE AND USE INFORMATION** effectively, and it's essential to lifelong learning. In addition to knowing how to find the right scholarly articles for a paper, information literacy leads to better critical thinking about all kinds of information we interact with — from the internet and social media to AI. Subject librarians typically deliver “one-shot” instruction to teach research and information literacy skills when invited by faculty to their classrooms. This is an important service that helps students with their research papers, but information literacy is a complex skill that requires ongoing learning in both academic and everyday life contexts that one-shot sessions can't deliver.

To teach more in-depth information literacy concepts, SMU Libraries is now offering credit-bearing courses. Librarians Megan Heuer and Julia Anderson designed and delivered a new three-credit course in spring 2025. UNIV 2301: Information Systems and Society has students examining how the internet, social media, big data, algorithms and artificial intelligence have changed the information we search for, how we search for it, how we read it, and how we determine what is true. Particular attention is paid to understanding the relationship between technology, information and power. The course assignments and activities cover a variety of experiences, from readings — including the course text *The Internet of Us: Knowing More and Understanding Less in the Age of Big Data* — to tracking personal search and evaluation behaviors. Students also play online games like Bad News and Trust & Safety Tycoon, select data sources for an algorithm, and suggest edits to a Wikipedia page. And yes, there is a research paper. Students develop and reflect on their own information behaviors and consumption so that they might apply what they have learned to their academic and personal lives.

This is only the beginning. UNIV 2301 will be taught again in spring 2026, and other possibilities for for-credit instruction are currently under development.

*Written by Megan Heuer, director of educational initiatives at SMU Libraries*



“The library has made doing research incredibly simple. Its navigation is user-friendly, and the staff are always extremely nice and happy to help.”



### The Student Success team is driving student engagement

through dynamic, high-impact programming. The team partnered with multiple libraries, the Meadows Museum, and the SMU Counseling Department to deliver an unforgettable student support initiative called “Say Neigh to Stress,” drawing impressive student turnout for a campus-wide stress ball hunt with prizes. Lotería Night brought campus to life through a fun, cultural collaboration with student organizations and departments. These standout events showcased the team's passion for supporting the whole student, fostering connection, promoting well-being and creating a strong sense of belonging on campus.

## BY THE NUMBERS

# 2,205

total instructional sessions  
(consultations, credit courses, course & non-course instruction, workshops)

# 14,217

total patrons reached in instructional sessions

# 1,577

consultations

# 3,336

reference transactions

# 449

course instruction sessions

# 8,979

students reached through course sessions

# 129

total workshops

# 1,422

total patrons in workshop attendance



most viewed Instagram post

## CURATED FOR

# connection

Prior to the groundbreaking of the Rees-Jones Library of the American West, DeGolyer Library hosted a vibrant celebration of discovery, connection and scholarship, where history came alive and community members gathered to share in the excitement of a new intellectual hub.

Christina Wood, archivist for the new library, hosted a Rees-Jones Collection preview alongside Russell L. Martin III '78, '86, director of DeGolyer Library.

"It was a joy to share items from the collection with our guests," says Christina. "Guests were eager to learn about what was on display and excited to hear more about the broader collection. It was invigorating to see the enthusiasm attendees had for the collection, and to hear the bold vision for the library shared by President Turner, Dean Jeffcoat, and Mr. Rees-Jones at the groundbreaking ceremony."

With the groundbreaking of the new library came an exciting opportunity to further strengthen the SMU Libraries community through engagement, discussion and discovery. Meg Wang, cataloger for the Rees-Jones Library of the American West, attended the groundbreaking and festivities, where she observed this dynamic engagement firsthand. "It was truly moving to see people engaging with the Rees-Jones materials — their smiles, their wide eyes, the sense of wonder and discovery," she says.

Few moments in an academic institution's life redefine its scholarly identity — but for SMU, this is one of them. The arrival of the Rees-Jones Collection marks a transformative moment for SMU Libraries, elevating the university into one of the foremost centers for the study of the American West. "With continued strategic acquisitions, SMU now offers an unmatched breadth of resources that will attract leading scholars, students and researchers to Dallas while deepening community connections," says Russell Martin. "These growing collections not only position SMU as a national destination for Western studies, but also ensure its role in shaping the future of scholarship on the region."

“SMU now offers an unmatched breadth of resources that will attract leading scholars, students and researchers to Dallas while deepening community connections.”

RUSSELL MARTIN



# DESIGNING FOR *discovery*

*This year, the work of the SMU Libraries Web team laid the foundation for the launch of the redesigned website through user testing and content creation. Communications and engagement specialist Brynn Price interviewed two team members, Sarah Jenkins and Clayton Crenshaw, to learn about this work.*

## How did you design the new website with users in mind?

**SJ:** We use many different methods to figure out what our users need: feedback and observations from librarians who work directly with students and faculty, transcripts from our Ask Us service, multiple kinds of website analytics, user interviews, and user testing. A library website is different from most websites because it has to do a lot: teach people how to use the library and do research, promote services and collections, and help users find what they want quickly.

**CC:** Students tested the navigation menus and our landing page design for individual libraries. Their input directly shaped the final product.

## How does the new website reflect SMU Libraries' goal of igniting discovery?

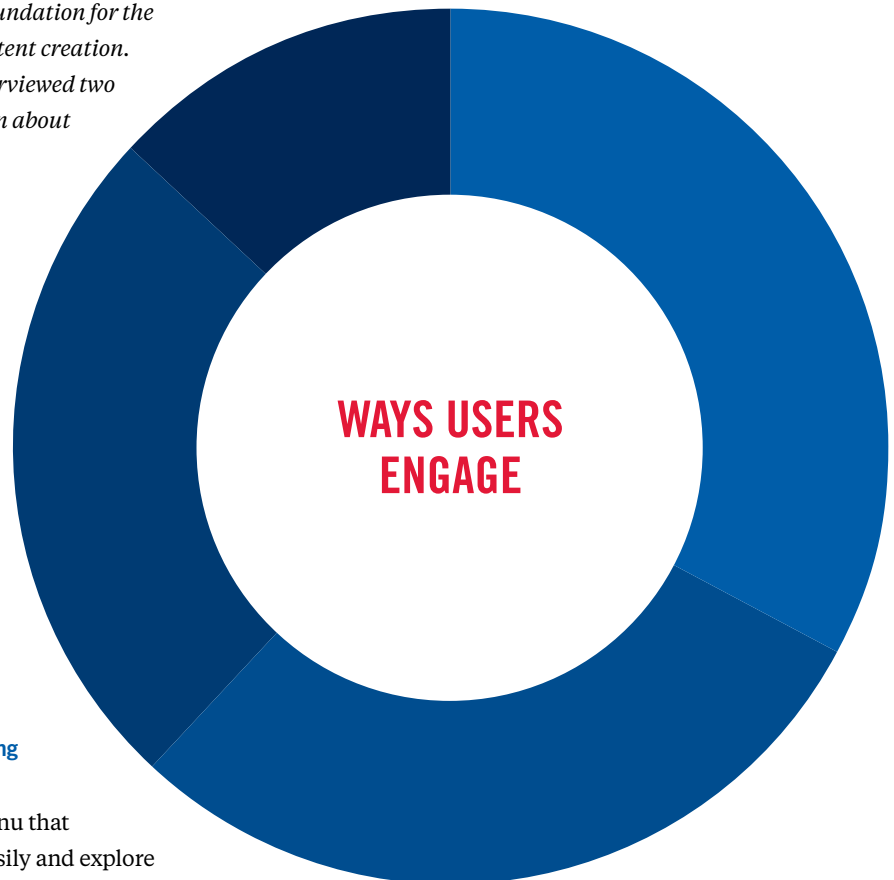
**SJ:** It's much easier to search on the new site. The search menu that appears on every page allows you to search our webpages easily and explore library resources no matter where you are on the site.

**CC:** We grouped things together in new ways to create a better user experience. Also, the new site has more visual appeal, which we hope will encourage the SMU community to explore more of the resources, services and experiences that the Libraries provide.

## What other reflections do you have about this work?

**CC:** This is a journey we've been on for several years, not just the past few months. It is never truly "finished," because libraries, their parent institutions, technologies, and user expectations are always changing, and we will always work to meet these needs.

**SJ:** The most fulfilling part of my job is working with our talented staff and helping them share their expertise through an accessible, user-friendly online experience. Planning for the new website has been a great way to achieve this goal.



“

... libraries, their parent institutions technologies and user expectations are always changing, and we will always work to meet these needs.”



## BY THE NUMBERS



922,683

total smu.edu/libraries sessions



461,470

total website visitors



4,332,283

total website views

## Embedding excellence in the everyday

**IN APRIL 2025, SMU LIBRARIES HIRED ME AS THE NEW STRATEGY & OPERATIONS** analyst. My role centers around two main areas: data analysis and business analytics.

On the data analysis side, I create reports using tools like Excel and Power BI to highlight trends and uncover meaningful insights. I share these findings with leadership to support informed decision-making. These reports demonstrate the impact of the libraries' work on SMU and the broader community. I'm also responsible for assessment initiatives with campus and professional partners, including the Office of Institutional Planning and Effectiveness (IPE) and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). So far, I've developed a comprehensive financial dashboard to track key performance indicators and budget performance, as well as an instruction dashboard that, for the first time, consolidates all librarians' teaching activities in one place, revealing valuable metrics like total hours spent teaching.

My second key focus is business analytics, where I examine SMU Libraries' operations holistically to identify areas for improvement and recommend solutions. One of my first major projects was implementing a more efficient supply ordering process. I created automations that simplify ordering for both requesters and those fulfilling orders, reducing miscommunications and lost information in email chains. Looking ahead, my next major project is to build a better knowledge management system for SMU Libraries, a multi-year effort currently underway.



My goals in this role are clear: to help SMU Libraries operate as efficiently as possible and to showcase the Libraries' value to campus partners and stakeholders. I'm excited about how this role supports the organization's growth, and I look forward to contributing to its continued impact in the years ahead.

*Written by Carly Hughes, strategy & operations analyst at SMU Libraries*

# A legacy of support **FOR SMU LIBRARIES**

With the conclusion of their distinguished tenure, President R. Gerald Turner and First Lady Gail Turner are recognized by SMU Libraries for their dedicated support as the Libraries' longest-standing consecutive donors. In his first year on the Hilltop, Dr. Turner and his wife, Gail, established the R. Gerald & Gail O. Turner Library Fund to support library acquisitions. The following year, he created the Gail Turner Hamon Library Fund to honor his wife and her interest in the arts.



For decades, the fund has supported collection development for the Jake L. and Nancy Hamon Arts Library, enhancing collections through the acquisition of noteworthy titles relevant to the study and scholarship of Hamon patrons.

Acquisitions supported by the R. Gerald & Gail O. Turner Library Fund span a wide range of topics, including American literature, social sciences, international literature in translation, and global affairs, all aimed at fostering interdisciplinary research and empowering students with critical thinking skills to drive meaningful change in the world.

“For thirty years, the Gail Turner Hamon Endowment has supported the purchase of exceptional and rare materials that have elevated the prestige of this library. The selections purchased with the Gail Turner Endowment funds have a direct impact on the scholarship and creative activities of the faculty and students in the Meadows School of the Arts.”

**JOLENE DE VERGES**

The Gail Turner Hamon Library Fund has made a similarly meaningful impact on the Hamon Arts Library, says Jolene de Verges, the library's director.

“For thirty years, the Gail Turner Hamon Endowment has supported the purchase of exceptional and rare materials that have elevated the prestige of this library. The selections purchased with the Gail Turner Endowment funds have a direct impact on the scholarship and creative activities of the faculty and students in the Meadows School of the Arts,” says Jolene. “The impact is especially felt when faculty schedule class visits to the library to view a high-quality facsimile, a rare musical score, or a unique artist book, as an example. The fund has helped the library build the collections and provide the students and faculty with the quality materials necessary for the serious study and practice of the arts.”



## Meet the expert: Rafia Mirza

### RAFIA MIRZA'S JOURNEY INTO DIGITAL

scholarship is rooted in a deep curiosity about culture, history and the evolving ways we engage with information. As a digital scholarship librarian at SMU, she recently completed a Master of Science in Data Science (MSDS), specializing in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. This focused training has strengthened her ability to support complex, data-driven research across disciplines. Combining academic expertise with hands-on experience, she works closely with students and faculty to advance digital scholarship projects, from initial ideas to in-depth research and instruction.

"I pursued a data science degree to enhance my computational and statistical literacy," she explains, "to help me more effectively evaluate when such methods are useful and what they will entail. I now have a deeper understanding of the underlying methods behind machine learning and AI, and a clearer sense of when such methodologies are appropriate and valuable to a researcher."

Rafia emphasizes how Generative AI is reshaping the way people search for, assess,

and interact with information.

"Library science is fundamentally about organizing information for accessibility and use, while AI introduces new opportunities and challenges in this process." Her background in both library and data science — including hands-on work applying deep learning to historical handwriting through her capstone project — positions her to guide students and faculty through this evolving landscape. Rafia also contributes to an Ithaka S+R initiative, *Integrating AI Literacy into the Curricula*, and has co-designed tutorials that demystify AI, blending technical instruction with critical evaluation — a skill she sees as increasingly vital, not only for assessing sources but also the outputs of AI tools.

"Learning how to use AI technologies has been really valuable, and I am committed to helping researchers at SMU do the same," she adds. "Discovery begins with inquiry, and library patrons are



now incorporating AI tools into the process of learning, questioning and expanding knowledge."

---

**"The library has become so much more than just a study space — it's the heart of my campus experience. It's where I swap ideas with friends, buckle down for serious study sessions, and collaborate on group projects. Time and again, I choose the library for its welcoming warmth, productive pulse, and constant care that make every visit both grounding and energizing."**

---

---

**"The Libraries have enhanced my experience at SMU by offering collaborative spaces where I can efficiently work with my peers and by providing a wide variety of research resources that support my academic and personal development."**

---

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- **Crenshaw, Clayton**, and **Melissa Johnson** (2024). Improving the Student Search Experience in LibGuides. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 43(4).
- Gottlieb-Miller, Lauren, Caroline Clavell, **Kathleen Alleman**, Amy Furness, Sarah Osborne Bender, and Jennifer Riestenberg Pepin (2025). *State of Art Museum Libraries, 2024*. ARLIS/NA Commons, Art Libraries Society of North America, 79.
- **Jensen (Wood), Christina** (2025). Don Meredith and the Creation of the Modern Celebrity Athlete. Dallas Historical Society. *Legacies: A History Journal for Dallas and North Central Texas*, 37(1).
- **Johnston, Carrie** (2024). Future generations will learn from it: Incidents in the *Life of a Slave Girl in the Archives*. Approaches to Teaching Harriet Jacobs's Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, edited by Lynn Domina, Modern Language Association, pp. 151-155.
- Lane Jr., Robert L., **Rafia Mirza**, and Robert Slater (2025). A Modern Approach to Classifying Medieval Latin Scripts. *SMU Data Science Review*, 9(1).

## PRESENTATIONS AND POSTER SESSIONS

- Claunch, Kristina, **Sylvia Jones**, and Joshua Been (2025). Come for the GIS, Stay for the Community. Presentation at the Texas Conference on Digital Libraries.
- **García, Ramón** (2025). Intrinsically Intertwined: Self-defining and Aligning Student Success & Outreach Roles. Presentation at Association of College and Research Libraries.
- Gottlieb-Miller, Lauren, Caroline Clavell, **Kathleen Alleman**, Amy Furness, Sarah Osborne Bender, and Jennifer Riestenberg Pepin (2025). The State of Art Museum Libraries: Evolving Practices Since 2016 and Shaping the Next Decade Together. Presentation at the Art Libraries Society of North America 53rd Annual Conference.
- **Heuer, Megan**, and **Julia Anderson** (2025). Why Did You Choose THAT?: A Study on the Relationship Between Reading, Searching, and Synthesizing. Presentation at Association of College and Research Libraries.
- **Jenkins, Sarah** (2025). Consistent, Accessible, Engaging: A Strategic Approach to Library Content Across Platforms. Poster presentation at Association of College and Research Libraries.

- **Jensen (Wood), Christina** (2025). Don Meredith and the Creation of the Modern Celebrity Athlete. Presentation at the Legacies Dallas History Conference.
- **Johnson, Melissa** (2024). Generating Change: Generative AI in Information Literacy Instruction. Presentation at the Generative AI in Libraries (GAIL) Virtual Conference.
- **Johnson, Melissa**, and **Tracey Rinehart** (2025). When Zombies Attack! Gamifying Research Instruction using LibGuides CMS & LibWizard. Springshare Flash Presentation at Association of College and Research Libraries.
- **Johnston, Carrie**, and **Rafia Mirza** (2024). Bridging Digital Humanities and Information Literacy: Librarians' Role in Developing Interdisciplinary Skills. Presentation at the Texas Digital Humanities Symposium.
- **Johnston, Carrie** (2024). Executive Roundtable on Strategies for Acquiring Access to Generative AI Services and Systems. Selected participant, Coalition of Networked Information.
- **Johnston, Carrie** (2024). Roundtable on Maria Edgeworth. Invited panelist at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
- **Johnston, Carrie** (2025). Editing Fundamentals. Invited panelist at the Cultures of Correspondence Symposium, Center of Digital Humanities Research at Texas A&M University.
- **Johnston, Carrie** (2025). Beyond the Professoriat: Career Pathways for Job Seekers in English. Invited panelist at the Modern Language Association Annual Convention.
- **Jones, Sylvia**, and Christina Chan-Park. (2024). Texas Data Repository: A State of the Repository Address. Presentation at the STEM Librarians South Conference.
- **Jones, Sylvia** (2024). Teaching GIS Through a Community Sprint. Presentation at the ESRI Education Summit.
- **Williamson, James**, and **Allie Wilkins** (2024). Processing the Sam Johnson Papers: Lessons for Next Gen. Presentation at the Rosetta Working Group Annual Meeting hosted at SMU.

## DEGREES AND AWARDS

- **Ajayi, Ashley**, **Justin Harrison**, and **Melissa Johnson**. Teaching Excellence Awards, SMU Cox Business Leadership Center.
- **Heuer, Megan**. Leading SMU Libraries team for a Defining and Implementing AI Literacy Ithaka study.
- **Jenkins, Ben**. G. Wesley Johnson Award, National Council on Public History.

- Egenolf, Susan, Hilary Havens, **Carrie Johnston**, Jessica Richard, Robin Runia, and Bryan Tarpley. Awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for \$350,000.
- **Mirza, Rafia**. Master of Science in Data Science with a Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence Specialization, Southern Methodist University.
- **Siebert, Kaitlin**. Master of Science, Archival Studies with a Certificate in Archival Management.
- **Wilkins, Allie**. Became a Certified Archivist, Academy of Certified Archivists.

## LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- **Alleman, Kathleen**. Chair, Lois Swan Jones Award Committee, Art Libraries Society of North America, Texas-Mexico Chapter.
- **García, Ramón**. Chair, Inclusive Pedagogy Committee, Association of College and Research Libraries.
- **Jeffcoat, Holly**. Chair Elect, HathiTrust Board of Governors; Chair, Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) Board; Secretary / Treasurer, Texas Digital Library (TDL) Board; Chair, ARL Leadership Fellows Program Task Force
- **Johnson, Melissa**. Chair, IS Instructional Technologies Committee, Association of College and Research Libraries.
- **Jones, Sylvia**. Chair, Awards Committee, American Society for Engineering Education, Engineering Libraries Division.
- **Sanabria, Sarah Haight**. Selected as the Vice Chair for the SCELCE License Advisory Committee.
- **Webb, Breanna**. Past Chair, SCELCE Programs and Professional Development Committee.

## WELCOMING NEW STAFF

Brynn Price  
Megan Lambert  
Kate Alleman  
Josey Jones  
Meg Wang  
Shannon Adams

## HONORING RETIREES

Beverly Mitchell



## LIBRARIES EXECUTIVE BOARD 2024-2025

Diana Blackman '93, '95, '14  
*Friends of SMU Libraries President*

Becky Bright '64

Michelle Brookshire '81

Pam Busbee '73

Jackie Campbell '09, '11

Holly Coughlin

Celia Crank '83

Janis Cravens '70, '70

Lissie Donosky '81, '08

John Dresser '79

Peter Flynn

Joanie Hanks '75

Juli Harrison '70, '72

Paige McDaniel

Caren H. Prothro  
*Vice Chair*

Jeff Rice

C. L. Mike Schmidt '62, '65

David Sedman  
*SMU Faculty Senate President*

Sandra Tinkham '66, '69

Mimi Vanderstraaten

Nancie Wagner '75  
*Chair*

Ruth Wardlaw '66, '71

Larrie Weil

Paula Whisenant '71

### EX OFFICIO

R. Gerald Turner  
*President*

Brad E. Cheves  
*Senior Vice President for Development  
and External Affairs*

Elizabeth G. Loba  
*Provost and Senior Vice President  
for Academic Affairs*

Holly E. Jeffcoat  
*Dean of SMU Libraries*

David B. Miller '72, '73  
*Board of Trustees Chair*

## FRIENDS OF SMU LIBRARIES BOARD 2024-2025

Diana Blackman '93, '95, '14  
*Friends of SMU Libraries President*

Jo Goyne '87, '90

Janis Knott  
*Vice President*

Nancy Miller  
*Secretary*

Kortney Nelson  
*Past President*

Brynn Price '23

Paul Santa Cruz '08

Jeanne K. Slay '85

Wendy H. Whaley

Anne Wittel

Polly York '95

Ellen Zoudlik

### EX OFFICIO

Amy Carver '94  
*Friends of SMU Libraries Director*

Holly E. Jeffcoat  
*Dean of SMU Libraries*

Cindy Ruppi '14  
*Treasurer*



SMU Dedman School of Law, supported by the Underwood Law Library, celebrated 100 years of legal education.



The renovated Duda Family Business Library opened to visitors at the start of the year.





## SMU LIBRARIES CELEBRATES MILESTONES DURING THE 2024–25 YEAR








## Record-breaking generosity

SMU Libraries is proud to announce its most successful Giving Day to date, with a remarkable 40% increase in funds raised compared to last year. This achievement was made possible through the incredible support of the Friends of SMU Libraries Board, Libraries Executive Board, Student Advisory Board, and committed donors and volunteers.

In collaboration with SMU's Development and External Affairs, the Libraries raised funds to support three impactful initiatives:

- Enhancing student spaces in Fondren Library
- Supporting the Friends of SMU Libraries
- Advancing the Voices of SMU Oral History Project

 **29%**  
increase in donors  
from FY24

SMU Libraries is grateful for the collective support that made this Giving Day such a success — support that will enhance learning, preserve history and strengthen services for the SMU community and beyond.

 **40%**  
increase in amount  
raised from FY24





Everyone's favorite  
Mustang catching up  
on reading in Fondren's  
study spaces!



**SMU**<sup>®</sup>

SMU Libraries, PO Box 750135, Dallas TX 75275-0135

[smu.edu/libraries](https://smu.edu/libraries)

Follow @smulibraries

