

SMU LIBRARIES

FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER



OUR ACC

Checking out the
Atlantic Coast
Conference
libraries

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Duda Family Business
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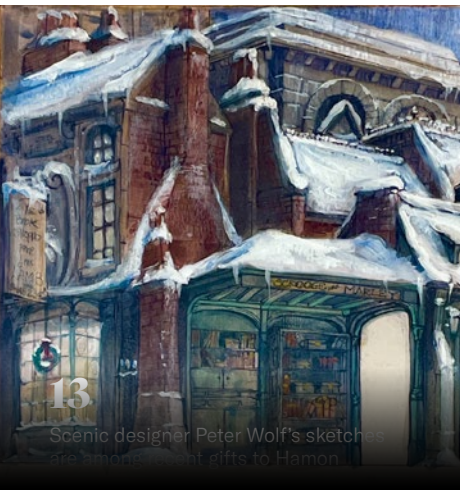
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Meet the newest addition to SMU's Miller Business Quadrangle.



Tenth Street: Where GIS technology and research intersect.



Scenic designer Peter Wolf's sketches are among recent gifts to Hamon.

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ON THE COVER

Mascots and other school representatives explore the Fondren Centennial Reading Room during the celebration welcoming the University – and SMU Libraries – to the Atlantic Coast Conference.

SMU Libraries Newsletter is published twice a year by the SMU Libraries, which retains the right to determine editorial content and manner of presentation. The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect official University policy. Letters and comments welcome. Send to: SMU Libraries, PO Box 750135, Dallas, TX 75275-0135. **Dean of SMU Libraries**, Holly E. Jeffcoat; **Editor**, Amy Carver '94; **Contributors**, Jolene de Verges, Sarah Jenkins, Russell L. Martin, III '78, '86, Scott Martin, Brynn Price '23, Sam Rodick '26, Jeremy Spracklin, Molly Steed, Patricia Ward; **Copy editor**, Ellen Rossetti; **Photographers**, David Hudson, Kim Leeson, Lana D. Phillips '13, Guy Rogers, III; **Graphic design**, Brooke Carlock Design. To support SMU Libraries visit smu.edu/libraries/giving or contact Brynn Price at 214-768-7034 or brynnp@smu.edu.

Orchestrating a future where technology and tradition harmonize

I recently participated in a panel on artificial intelligence (AI) and higher education, featuring insights from Dave Copps, founder of Dallas-based Worlds. His vision of the researcher as maestro resonated with me. It inspired me to explore how this vision of AI can guide our work at SMU Libraries.

Imagine stepping into the shoes of a maestro. Picture lifting the baton to guide AI systems and teams, combining expertise and technology to create harmony, turning isolated notes into a powerful composition.

Percussion: Setting the cadence

Begin with a steady beat – the foundation. For us, this rhythm is set by initiatives like the Rees-Jones Library of the American West. Housed in its collection, the 1876 sketchbook by Etahdleuh Doanmoe (see back cover) reminds us we're here to bring history to life and inspire inquiry. This is our mission's heartbeat.

Brass: Building the presence

Add the boldness of brass. This is where powerful notes echo through our work, like the Duda Family Business Library (see Pages 2–3). More than a space, it's where librarians teach students to wield business intelligence tools confidently, preparing them for real-world challenges and fostering impactful learning that drives their growth and readiness for future success.



SMU Libraries embraces a symphony of new opportunities in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Woodwinds: Adding texture

Introduce the subtle notes of the woodwinds. Think of the If Tenth Street Could Talk project (see Page 11), weaving oral histories, GIS mapping and archival materials into a narrative that connects our community with its heritage. Libraries don't just hold stories; we help write them.

Strings: Honoring the past

Let the strings take over with their emotive quality. This honors the past, embodied by Joan Gosnell's work as University archivist (see Page 12). Her dedication echoes through stories that connect us and the legacy we carry forward. These strings remind us that while we learn from our history, we also use it as a foundation for future innovation.

AI: The instrument of the future

Envision AI as an instrument enhancing the orchestra. It's not a replacement for the human touch but amplifies our mission. Imagine AI refining research support, personalizing learning and enriching archives. It's about blending technology seamlessly into the music of progress.

This orchestration reminds us that harmony comes from listening, adapting and inspiring. As we guide SMU Libraries into this blend of tradition and innovation, we celebrate the past, embrace the present and look eagerly to the future.

With anticipation for what's to come,
Holly E. Jeffcoat
Dean of SMU Libraries

10,574
Ask Us questions answered
June 2023 – May 2024

1,820
Research consultations
June 2023 – May 2024

91,850
Items digitized

DUDA FAMILY BUSINESS LIBRARY

Introducing a new name and space for a premier community resource

A student takes advantage of the handy printer located near the entrance before heading off to class. Another opens a laptop before being joined by classmates for what appears to be an intense study session. A librarian chats with a student about their research assignment. Meanwhile, two others, seated at Bloomberg terminals, confer about the data they’re viewing.

Ashley Ajayi, online engagement librarian; Heather Bell, library manager; Gayle Freeman-Staggs, student success librarian; Justin Harrison, undergraduate program librarian; Melissa Johnson, instructional design and educational technologies librarian; Tracey Rinehart, instruction coordinator and business graduate programs librarian; and 10 excellent student assistants. They support Cox School of



Welcome to a typical afternoon in the Duda Family Business Library. The much-anticipated new hub for business research, collaboration and study was made possible by the generosity of Fritz Duda and Mary Lee Duda and The Fritz and Mary Lee Duda Foundation.

Library Director Sandy Miller and her team are understandably proud of the stunning new space. Miller leads a staff comprised of

Business undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and staff.

Positioned off the new Arnold Commons, in the lower level of the David B. Miller Business Quadrangle, the library is ideally situated in a high-traffic area abuzz with student activity all day. It’s bright and beautifully appointed with abundant overhead lighting, as well as ample tables and chairs and computer workstations, where students can gather for group or

“
We’ve always been focused on offering the support and resources our students need to excel and our faculty require for teaching and research.”

Sandy Miller

individual study. Journals and other materials stored on open shelves are easy to find and use. On one side of the room, expansive windows give the room an airy quality. On the other side and along the rear wall, offices are conveniently located for quick access to librarians with expertise in relevant subject matter.

Just steps away from their classrooms, users can find high-quality specialized resources in the library. Among the available research tools are computers equipped with software critical to business research, including four Bloomberg terminals with real-time financial market data; eight FactSet stations featuring business data and analytics tools; two CoStar stations for commercial real estate information; and more. These databases allow students to gather the information needed to complete assignments successfully.

Across the hall is the new Ida Family Reading Room, which is dedicated to



The new hub for business research, collaboration and study was made possible by Fritz Duda and Mary Lee Duda and The Fritz and Mary Lee Duda Foundation.



quiet study. It’s furnished with tables and comfortable seating and decorated with international flags and a wooden map of the world representing the global reach of the Cox School of Business.

Adjoining the Duda Family Business Library, the Kitt Investing and Trading Center now accommodates 60 students at dual-monitor computer stations with access to FactSet, Capital IQ (global market intelligence) and Morningstar (investment research, analysis and ratings) databases. Ten of the workstations double as Bloomberg Professional terminals. A large video wall displays breaking business news, commodity movements and stock market changes while three LED tickers display global market updates. When not in use for classes or workshops, the center is open to students.

The Duda Family Business Library opened when classes started August 26. Finishing touches around the building were still being made, so Miller and her team stepped up to direct lost students. It was the first occasion for some of them to experience the library in the Cox School setting. The former SMU Business Library had relocated in 2022 to the lower level of Hamon Arts Library while renovation and construction were underway.

“It’s great to have the library back here. It’s so convenient to be able to pop in between classes,” says Isabella Salazar ’26. “I have class in an hour, and the library is a great place to hang out before it. I can review notes, catch up on messages, whatever I need to do.”

There hasn’t been a dull moment for the team since the opening. Staff conducted orientation sessions for graduate students and

faculty followed by a full slate of workshops and classroom instruction sessions, which continue throughout the year, designed to help students get the most from library resources.

While the library has changed physically over the years, its mission hasn’t, Miller says. “We’ve always been focused on offering the support and resources our students need to excel and our faculty require for teaching and research.” ■

This page (Small photos, from left) The Kitt Investing and Trading Center now accommodates 60 students at dual-monitor stations. In the library, students have access to computers equipped with software critical to business research. Roomy tables with chairs are ideal for individuals or groups. **Opposite page** The Ida Family Reading Room is dedicated to quiet study.

Honoring a library leader in digital scholarship

In recognition of her tireless advocacy for digital scholarship, SMU Libraries’ Cindy Boeke was honored with the 2024 Individual Impact Award from the Texas Digital Library.

The Texas Digital Library is a statewide consortium of academic institutions dedicated to ensuring long-term, equitable access to digital content of value to research, instruction, cultural heritage and institutional memory. The award celebrates the significant contributions and improvements to the field made by the recipient.



Boeke serves as assistant director of the Norwick Center for Digital Solutions and has been a leader in building digital collections covering an array of subject matter. She began working at the University in 2008, the dawn of the digital age for SMU’s special collections. Over the years, Boeke has written 18 successful grant proposals and participated in numerous fundraising initiatives that have received over \$525,000 toward

digitizing and presenting items from SMU’s vast and varied special collections. Thanks in large part to her efforts, SMU Libraries Digital Collections now boast more than 90,000 images, documents, works of art, audio-visual materials and ephemera garnering 7.4 million page views.

Through the years, Boeke has been a generous mentor to over 50 graduate and undergraduate students who have spent time with the Norwick Center team during practicums, internships and other learning experiences.

Another career highlight considered by the award committee is Boeke’s work over the past five years in supporting the development of the Voices of SMU oral history project, a research collaboration among SMU undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, librarians and alumni to document the histories of underrepresented alumni. These interviews capture the stories of their student experiences while documenting crucial events in Texas history, including the desegregation of higher education and student activism. Boeke developed the comprehensive workflow and ensures the project adheres to best practices for oral history, metadata and digital collections.

“Cindy’s enthusiasm for the work is contagious,” says Rob Walker, director of the Norwick Center, who nominated her for the award. “She stays in constant touch with our SMU Libraries partners, always looking for new opportunities to make even more materials available online.” ■



Guiding your journey in the AI galaxy

The term “generative artificial intelligence” provokes a kaleidoscope of reactions in academia, from excitement and curiosity to fear and dread. SMU Libraries takes the anxiety out of AI exploration by providing trusted resources and support.

Leading the way are the Research and Scholarly Initiatives and Educational Initiatives teams. They work in concert to craft instructional and informational materials aimed at tapping the potential of AI as a useful, creative and ethical collaborator for students, faculty and staff.

From online guides to immersive workshops, a wide range of resources is available to assist learners at all levels in developing AI literacy, as well as expanding their skills to make the most of the powerful technology. This training is especially important to students starting their careers when AI’s impact is omnipresent.

For those ready to dip their toes in for the first time, a good starting point is a library-created guide. You’ll find an overview of campus resources and information about leveraging generative AI for research. The guide includes a handy reference chart of common tools and their best uses. There’s also an overview tutorial on the Canvas instructional platform that faculty can import into their Canvas classes.

Users seeking a deeper dive into the AI ecosystem will appreciate the Constellate Skill-Build 2024 tutorial. Thanks to SMU Libraries’ subscription, the University community has access to these workshops offering a comprehensive look at the technology, including an introduction to prompt engineering, which is structuring instructions that can be understood and interpreted effectively by a generative AI tool. It also delves into Python programming, dataset building and the foundational technologies behind AI, including Large Language Models (LLMs) and Automated Text Classification (ATC).

Start here
guides.smu.edu/ai

Experts empower family archivists

■ mother’s dance card with her future husband’s name penciled in amongst her beaux was one of the family heirlooms examined for conservation during the “Preserving Family Memories” workshop September 15.

Led by Felicia Williamson, director of The Helen and Frank Risch Library and Archives at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, and Friends of SMU Libraries, the workshop provided common-sense solutions to the most frequent challenges of saving for future generations the family photographs, letters and artifacts that are often stored in home attics and closets.

“There is an archivist born in every generation,” Williamson says. “That individual often inherits all the documents, files, photos and familial artifacts, but not always the knowledge and wherewithal to appropriately care for these treasured items.”

As she notes, when “photos and letters pile up, preservation and organizational challenges can seem insurmountable. The task of preserving family history can become overwhelming very quickly.”

That’s why the Friends and the museum staff became partners in periodically offering these interactive information sessions. They focus on practical and cost-effective solutions to empower families to tackle their own preservation projects.

The event was among activities offered during a free admission day celebrating the fifth anniversary of the opening of the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum’s 55,000-square-foot permanent home in the West End Historic District, realizing the dream of local Holocaust survivors that first took root in 1984. According to the museum, when its new building opened in September 2019, the mission was expanded “to teach the history of the Holocaust and advance human rights to combat prejudice, hatred and indifference.” ■



Felicia Williamson, director of The Helen and Frank Risch Library and Archives at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum Library and Archives, offers tips during a preservation workshop co-sponsored by Friends of SMU Libraries. **Fun fact:** Williamson is married to James Williamson, digital preservation librarian with SMU’s Norwick Center for Digital Solutions. They met at graduate school orientation at LSU’s School of Library and Information Science.



Brynn Price ’23: Spreading the love for libraries

Brynn Price ’23 became an SMU Libraries superfan as an undergraduate. As a natural progression of her devotion, she joined the SMU Libraries engagement team July 8 as communications and engagement specialist.

In this newly created position, Price assists the team and Dean Holly Jeffcoat with board management and communications and with stewardship and engagement activities for SMU Libraries.

She graduated from SMU in December 2023 with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in religious studies. Price demonstrated a true affinity for libraries through several years of service on the SMU Libraries Student Advisory Board.

“I’ve enjoyed seeing how the libraries connect with communities close and far from their

University home,” Price says. “But I have especially loved the wonderful people I’ve met through the libraries; they are such kind people who always want to help.”

Going from student to colleague has been a smooth transition, thanks to staff members stepping up to show her the ropes. “Learning from them in a work environment has been amazing,” she says. “They are so knowledgeable and happy to teach me new things.”

So far, planning and participating in events have been the high points of her new job. “I appreciate every opportunity to share my love of SMU Libraries with the broader community,” she says.

Advancing toward the 2025 groundbreaking

Thanks to user-focused planning and creative solutions, services offered by Fondren and DeGolyer libraries continue to run like clockwork while preparations for the new Rees-Jones Library of the American West progress.

Protective exterior fencing puts safety first as the Science Information Center (SIC) comes down layer by layer to make way for the new building. This work is expected to conclude in December. Inside Fondren Library, walls went up between the old building and the main desk, as well as in corresponding areas on other floors. Probably the most visible interior impact is the reconfiguration of student study space. With the closing of Fondren’s north wing came the challenge of replacing 295 seats lost temporarily. Part of the interim remedy is repurposing spaces to yield 50 new seats until the building is completed. More adjustments scheduled for spring 2025 will produce 129 additional seats in the first-floor Learning Commons, 56 additional seats with new furniture in the second-floor Fondren Centennial

Reading Room and 19 additional seats in fourth-floor study carrels. Overall, this plan adds back 204 seats. Behind the scenes, people and services keep going without skipping a beat. For example, library colleagues completed a massive materials relocation in preparation for the current phase of the project. Here’s a look at what they moved over a 23-week period:

- 150,000 books.
- 114 map cabinets.
- Approximately 40,000 boxes of books, government documents, SMU Archives, microforms, theses and dissertations, periodicals and cartographic material.

Materials now stored at the Iron Mountain facility are available upon request. Meanwhile, excitement mounts for the groundbreaking in May 2025. Look for a sneak preview of the new Rees-Jones Library of the American West coming in the spring newsletter. ■

Letters bring family’s gold rush story to life

A trove of correspondence acquired by the Rees-Jones Collection documents the adventure of a lifetime while detailing the hardship of life in the California gold fields and the struggles of loved ones left behind.

The Hoxie Family California Gold Rush Letters (1854–1856) comprise 79 holograph letters – approximately 270 pages, recorded neatly in ink and pencil – and a 24-page notebook. The letters were written by and to Benjamin Barnes Hoxie of Roberts Meadow, Massachusetts, during his quest for California gold. The first is dated September 1854 and the final one in August 1856. Most of his letters were composed from mining camps in the foothills of Northern California. Some include observations about San Francisco and Sacramento during visits by Hoxie and Leander Hannum, his companion in the hunt for gold.

When Hoxie set out to seek his fortune, he left his wife, Hannah, and their children, David and Esther, to tend the family farm in Massachusetts. The collection includes 41 letters from them and other relatives to Hoxie.

In the notebook the prospector logged expenses, income and debts incurred in California. He also listed the names of miners he became acquainted with, and he even transcribed the lyrics of nine songs he learned in the field.

The gold rush correspondence is a prized addition to the growing Rees-Jones Collection. It is unusual not only for the quantity and quality of the letters, but also for the dispatches from Hoxie’s kin back home, providing a dual-perspective story of one family’s gamble on gold.

“It is a collection with not only great historical significance but also great human interest,” says Russell L. Martin, III, director of DeGolyer Library.

Background A letter from California written by Benjamin Hoxie to his family in 1855. **Excerpts** In a letter from Hannah Hoxie, young Esther Hoxie printed a two-page message to “My Dear Father.”

NOI COLLECTION REES-JONES



Mapping early Texas history

In 1833 Texas map commissioned by Stephen F. Austin and presented to the Rees-Jones Library of the American West by Dallasite Salle Stemmons signifies the first major gift to the library by a donor outside of the Rees-Jones family.

Labeled “Map of Texas with Parts of the Adjoining States” and published by H.S. Tanner of Philadelphia, it is acknowledged “as one of the first finely detailed and accurate maps of Texas published,” according to the Texas State Library. The cartographic treasure notes such landmarks as Austin’s Colony, DeWitt’s Colony (established by Green DeWitt and James Kerr), towns, missions, silver mines, trails, and droves of wild horses and cattle. It also contains notes on topographic features.

“Of all the Stephen F. Austin maps of Texas, the 1833 edition is the rarest,” says Russell L. Martin, III ’78, ’86, director of DeGolyer Library. “Only two other copies are known, at the Texas State Library and at the Bancroft Library at Cal-Berkeley.”

Stemmons, whose family’s civic leadership over generations contributed to Dallas’ growth as a commercial capital, had the map framed and on display in her home for decades. As

she recalls, the artifact was discovered folded and tucked away in a book, a family heirloom with historic adjacency to Austin’s map. The book, *Reise durch ... Texas im Jahre 1834*, was written in German – the language of many early Texas settlers – by her great-great-grandfather Eduard Ludecus and published in Leipzig, Germany. It is a compilation of letters he wrote while traveling from New York City to the ill-fated Dolores Colony in South Texas. Ludecus’ vivid eyewitness account is recognized by historians as a valuable source of information about life and culture in pre-revolutionary Texas.

In addition to the map, Stemmons donated the Ludecus book to the collection along with two manuscript maps of the Dolores Colony drawn by him.

The Rees-Jones Collection continues to expand as excitement mounts for the 2025 groundbreaking of the much-anticipated library. More details are coming in the spring newsletter. ■

Above Dallasite Salle Stemmons with her donation of a rare piece of Lone Star history – an 1833 map of Texas – to the Rees-Jones Library of the American West at SMU.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO – BULLARD, TEXAS?

The nearly 200-year-old Texas map that’s now part of the Rees-Jones Collection set the course for a serendipitous discovery of modern family connections by two alumni who are also SMU employees.

At a summer viewing of the prized document in the Texana Room, SMU Libraries’ Digital Engagement Manager Lana Phillips ’13 spotted a familiar locale. “That’s where I’m from,” she said, pointing to East Texas.

Her declaration caught the attention of Sarah Bennett ’11, a writer and editor with SMU Marketing and Communications. “I mentioned my grandmother was from Bullard, and Lana said her family was from there, too,” Bennett says.

A few weeks later, they followed up on their hunch by using their phones to dive into their individual accounts on Ancestry.com, one of the world’s largest genealogy companies. They found a common ancestor – Phillips’ fourth great-grandfather is Bennett’s third great-grandfather.

They later learned that their aunts had worked together.

Since then, the two SMU graduates have gotten together to strengthen their “cousin connection.”

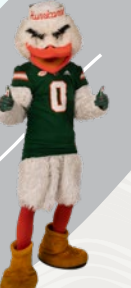
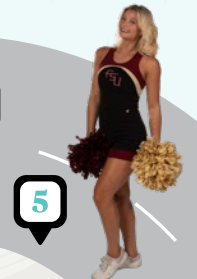
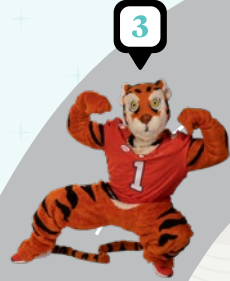
“It’s fun to know I’ve found family across campus in a colleague and fellow Pony,” Bennett says.

Sarah Bennett ’11 (left) and Lana Phillips ’13



ROAD TRIP

Checking out the Atlantic Coast Conference libraries SMU Libraries joins some of the most prestigious academic and research libraries in the land energizing the coast-to-coast powerhouse. Our six on-campus facilities plus the Fort Burgwin Library at SMU-in-Taos bring depth to the ACC bench in resources, expertise and services. A major pride point is the ever-expanding Rees-Jones Collection (see Pages 6–7). The assemblage combined with DeGolyer Library’s Western materials raises the ranking of the University’s Americana holdings to new heights.



1 Boston College
Chestnut Hill, MA
Mascot: Baldwin the Eagle

Burns Library features one of the largest and most comprehensive Irish collections in the United States, as well as original materials from saints and Nobel laureates, housed in a structure noted for its art and dramatic stained-glass windows. **O'Connor Library** contains a specialized collection of earth sciences monographs, periodicals and maps, particularly in the areas of seismology, geology and geophysics.

2 UC Berkeley
Berkeley, CA
Mascot: Oski the Bear

Bancroft Library is the primary special collections library, and one of the largest and most heavily used libraries of manuscripts, rare books and unique materials in the United States. **C. V. Starr East Asian Library** contains one of the most comprehensive collections of materials in East Asian languages in the country. Its extensive holdings in East Asian languages make it one of the top two such collections in the nation, outside of the Library of Congress.

3 Clemson University
Clemson, SC
Mascot: The Tiger
Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR) is an advanced-technology research campus, which is home to the nation's only graduate Department of Automotive Engineering. The library supports Clemson University students pursuing Master of Science and/or Ph.D. degrees in automotive engineering.

4 Duke University
Durham, NC
Mascot: The Blue Devil
David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library's signature collections include John Hope Franklin Research Center for African and African American History and Culture; John W. Hartman Center for Sales, Advertising and Marketing History; History of Medicine Collections; Human Rights Archive; and the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture.

5 Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL
Represented by an FSU cheerleader
Paul A. M. Dirac Science Library is named for the Nobel Prize-winning physicist who taught at FSU in his later years and supports STEM-related research. **Claude Pepper Library and Museum** was established in 1985 as the official repository of a unique collection of materials by and about U.S. Congressman Claude Pepper (1900–1989).

6 Georgia Tech
Atlanta, GA
Mascot: Buzz
Georgia Tech Library is primarily a digital-first library, averaging more than 4 million downloads a year. Much of its physical collection is housed in cold storage at the Library Service Center in partnership with Emory University, meaning students, faculty and staff have access to Emory's multimillion volume collection.

7 University of Louisville
Louisville, KY
Mascot: Louie the Cardinal
Dwight Anderson Memorial Music Library houses the largest academic music collection in the state of Kentucky. It serves as the repository for all materials related to the world-renowned Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition. **Margaret M. Bridwell Art Library's** collection is particularly strong in photography, modern and contemporary art, and design.

8 University of Miami
Coral Gables, FL
Mascot: Sebastian the Ibis
Otto G. Richter Library, the central university library, houses such collections as the Cuban Heritage Collection and the Jay I. Kislak Collection of the Early Americas, Exploration and Navigation, a distinguished assemblage of maps, books, artifacts, artwork and ephemera documenting the history of the Western Hemisphere, including the North and South poles. **Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric and Earth Science Library** is one of the nation's foremost marine science libraries.

9 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC
Mascot: Rameses
Information & Library Science Library features a collection of historic children's books, mainly published between 1839 and 1920, to support research in the history of children's literature as well as the curriculum for children's librarians at the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina. **Sonja Haynes Stone Center Library for Black Culture and History** collection gathers works on the African American experience, Africa and the African diaspora, with a focus on the social sciences and humanities.

10 North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC
Mascot: Mr. and Mrs. Wuf
D. H. Hill Jr. Library and the **James B. Hunt Jr. Library** are the two main libraries, which are complemented by separate libraries dedicated to design, natural resources and veterinary medicine. The system's collection strengths cover agriculture, architecture, biological sciences, design, engineering, entomology, forest resources, mathematics, physical sciences, statistics, textiles and veterinary medicine.

11 Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN
Mascot: The Leprechaun
Hesburgh Libraries is a network of resource locations across the campus and includes a Music Library, a Medieval Institute Library and an Architecture Library. Rare books and special collections strengths include Catholic studies, Irish studies, Italian literature, Latin American and Iberian history and literature, sports and physical culture, and theology and church history.

12 University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
Mascot: Roc the Panther
Hillman Library includes vast materials and special collections spanning centuries and topics, everything from one of the largest archives of Western Pennsylvania history, to 16th century illuminated books, to 20th century underground zines. **Theodore M. Finney Music Library** houses the John Coltrane tenor solos collection and important music imprints and manuscripts from the 15th to the 19th centuries.

13 Stanford
Stanford, CA
Mascot: The Tree
Stanford Libraries' extensive holdings include numerous personal and corporate archives ranging from Buckminster Fuller, to Allen Ginsberg, to Apple Inc. Among its photography collections are images from Silicon Valley and the Civil Rights Movement of the late 1960s and the early 1970s. Additional highlights are the Archive of Recorded Sound, with almost a half million recordings; the Branner Library, with a quarter million contemporary maps; and the David Rumsey Map Collection, with well over 10,000 rare maps, globes and atlases.

14 Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY
Mascot: Otto the Orange
Bird Library, the main campus library, is home to the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive. Its recordings cover the gamut of musical genres as well as recordings by such famous figures as Thomas Edison, Amelia Earhart, Albert Einstein, Margaret Bourke-White, Norman Corwin, Long John Nebel, Richard Neutra, Miklós Rózsa, Albert Schweitzer, Benjamin Spock, Mike Wallace and Franz Waxman. **Special Collections** include the Pan Am Flight 103/Lockerbie Air Disaster Archives (victims included 35 Syracuse students).

15 University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
Mascot: Cavman
Clemons Library is a 24-hour study hot spot, popular for its Robertson Media Center that provides virtual reality, 3D printing, audio and video spaces, and support for media creation of every kind. **Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library's** strengths include American and British literature, the history of Virginia and the southeastern United States, the history and archives of the University of Virginia, sporting books and manuscripts, World War I, bibliography and book arts (including fine press books, pop-up books, artists' books and typography).

16 Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA
Mascot: HokieBird
University Libraries comprises the Carol M. Newman Library (main library); Art and Architecture Library, with 85,000 print volumes and more than 200 journals that encompass the visual arts, art history, architecture, decorative arts and design; the Veterinary Medicine Library supporting students and faculty of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine; the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute and Health Sciences and Technology Library, located at the Health Sciences and Technology campus in Roanoke, Virginia; and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine Health Sciences Library.

17 Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, NC
Mascot: Demon Deacon
Z. Smith Reynolds Library is the main library, which supports the research and instruction needs of more than 5,400 undergraduates and over 3,500 graduate and professional students in the School of Business, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Divinity, and the School of Professional Studies. Other libraries include the Law Library and the Coy C. Carpenter Library serving the Wake Forest School of Medicine.

The placid quietude of Fondren Library in the early morning hours

In my time at SMU, I have learned many tips and tricks for proper studying. I've come to understand the value of office hours, of the Pomodoro Technique, and of taking the time to organize study groups with classmates. I've even taken radical steps toward studying for several days before an exam. Or even dividing up large assignments into manageable chunks, rather than completing them all at once in a mad dash, pursued by a deadline.

Yet nothing has served me better than learning as a first year, on a cold November night, with a paper due the following morning and nothing to show for it, about the wonders of Fondren Library past midnight. Some of my best work has been done there, hunched over a computer on the second floor above the main desk, near what my friends and I affectionately call "the hole," or sitting in the reading room watching

the people dwindle as late night turns to early morning. Few haunt the library at this hour, but I feel an unspoken camaraderie with my fellow night crawlers. I wonder what midterms they're cramming for, what research papers or coding projects they have due at 6 a.m., and I feel a sense of victory whenever one leaves before me.

During finals season you can find me at Bridwell in the basement, or at Underwood on the second floor

looking out at the beautiful Irving skyline at sunset. On the random Tuesdays that really matter, I will be in Fondren, productive in the silence of the witching hour. ■

Sam Rodick '26

Hometown: Niskayuna, New York

Majors: History and political science

Minors: General anthropology, human rights, classical studies, and public policy and international affairs

Activities: Armstrong Commons RA, student worker for the Center for Presidential History, president of College Democrats, Dedman College Scholar, Tower Scholar, Classical Studies Club, vice president for communications for the Anthropology Club and a senior associate editor for *The Dialogue*, the Tower Center's undergraduate political studies journal



Yet nothing has served me better than learning as a first year ... about the wonders of Fondren Library past midnight."

Breathing digital life into Dallas' historic Tenth Street neighborhood

In a race against time, researchers are providing a voice for a national historic treasure in danger of disappearing. SMU Libraries resources are key to their work creating a digital museum of our country's largest, most intact Freedman's Town.

Their passion project, If Tenth Street Could Talk, received funding from a Library of Congress Community Collections Grant. Leading the efforts to tell the story of Dallas' Tenth Street Historic District are cousins Tameshia Rudd-Ridge and Jourdan Brunson, founders of kinkofa technology company, in partnership with the nonprofit Remembering Black Dallas.

SMU's Katie Cross, an anthropology Ph.D. student with a concentration in archaeology, was inspired by their activism when she was pondering a dissertation topic. After joining the mission in 2023, she "developed an archaeological project that uses GIS (geographic information systems) countermapping and spatial analysis with their concerns in mind. These methods support the community's efforts to put Tenth Street back on the map and visualize what can't easily be seen today."

Located a few miles south of downtown in the Oak Cliff neighborhood, Tenth Street Freedman's Town was a safe haven for formerly enslaved people and their descendants at a time when Jim Crow segregation made it almost impossible, and anti-Black violence made it dangerous, to live in other parts of the city. At its height, the 69-acre enclave boasted a school, a hospital, a movie theater, churches, grocery stores and other businesses supported by nearly 2,000 residents.

Using GIS technology, oral history interviews, genealogical investigations and old-school legwork, the research team is piecing together Tenth Street history chiseled away by redlining, disinvestment by the city and destruction encouraged by local and federal policies.

Cross learned GIS skills as an undergraduate at James Madison



University and honed them through the GIS and Spatial Literacy program based in Fondren Library. Jessie Zarazaga directs SMU Libraries' Initiative for Spatial Literacy, and Sylvia Jones is the research librarian for spatial and data literacy.

"I attended several of the training events in the GIS lab, including one on georeferencing historical maps and another on creating StoryMaps," Cross says. "I also took a class on GIS and mapping with Jessie several years ago and spent one semester as a teaching assistant in the GIS lab."

Cross combed through U.S. Census Bureau data, Sanborn Company fire insurance maps held by the Library of Congress and other sources when she came across a reference to materials housed in DeGolyer Library's special collections: the 1941-42 and 1947-48 volumes of the *Negro City Directory of Dallas*.

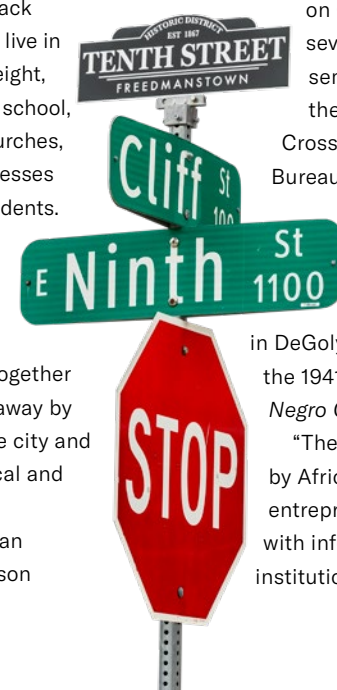
"These directories were created by African American leaders and entrepreneurs, so they are filled with information about individuals, institutions and businesses important

to Dallas' African American community. This includes advertisements for businesses, such as Taylor Drug Store and Star Theatre," she explains.

SMU Libraries' Norwick Center for Digital Solutions team digitized the directories, thanks to a TexTreasures grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Norwick Center also furnished entrée to high-resolution versions of two collections of aerial photographs that are part of SMU's Edwin J. Foscue Map Library: the 1930 Fairchild Survey, comprising aerial photographs commissioned by the city of Dallas, and the 1945 U.S. Department of Agriculture surveys of various locations in and around Dallas.

"Together with what we're finding in the archives and oral histories, the maps we're generating provide insight into Tenth Street in a way that you can't really see when you drive through the area today," Cross says.

Above Standing in front of the historic Greater El Bethel Missionary Baptist Church are (from left) SMU doctoral student Katie Cross with Tameshia Rudd-Ridge and Jourdan Brunson, project leads for If Tenth Street Could Talk and founders of kinkofa, a technology company that provides tools and resources for Black families to document, share and preserve their stories.



Mourning the loss of a beloved archivist, colleague and Friend

The SMU community gathered to celebrate the life of SMU Archivist Joan Gosnell on October 9 in Fondren Library. Gosnell died unexpectedly September 9 following a brief illness.

A heartfelt email to the SMU Libraries family from DeGolyer Library Director Russell L. Martin, III '78, '86, her longtime supervisor and colleague, relayed the news of her passing. "Joan had just marked her 20th year of service here at SMU," he wrote. "She will be sorely missed."



SMU President R. Gerald Turner with Joan Gosnell at Tables of Content.

The magnitude of the loss registered across the University in an outpouring of grief mixed with gratitude for her tireless service and exceptional talents. Writing in the September 13 issue of *The Daily Campus*, Katie Fay and Mikaila Neverson described her as "an integral part of *The Daily Campus*' reporting, aiding in several reports such as our fall 2023 print edition, 'SMU Archives Reveal a Painful Past' and 'What's Behind the Doors of DeGolyer Library?'"

They noted her involvement with the Town and Gown Club of SMU, one of the University's oldest organizations, as well as her role as a mentor with the Voices of SMU oral history project to document the stories of underserved alumni.

Tributes on social media served as a testament to the camaraderie and goodwill she nurtured over two decades on the Hilltop.

"My friend was a special force at SMU, and it's rare to find someone who truly loves what they do so much that their passion and excitement inspires others," Astria Smith, SMU's assistant vice president of annual giving and alumni relations, wrote on LinkedIn.

Gosnell was born and grew up in Pennsylvania. She held a B.A. from

Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania; an M.A. in history from William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia; and an M.S. in library and information science from the University of North Texas in Denton.

Her career spanned both the corporate and academic archival fields. Her first job as a historian was with the American Irish Historical Society in New York City. Next, she was hired by JCPenney as the corporate historian and archivist at its Manhattan headquarters. She moved the JCPenney Archives to Plano, when the company relocated to North Texas. After SMU acquired the archives, she joined SMU and moved with the Penney's papers to Fondren Library.

Always quick with a quip, she was known for the tagline, "I'm a New Yorker, not a Southern belle," accompanying her colorful commentaries. What never required explanation was her dedication and professionalism.

"SMU simply would not have been able to mark its centennial properly, in 2011–2015, without Joan's efforts as University archivist," Martin says. During the multiyear commemoration, her expertise was essential to the development of a multitude of materials, including the writing of SMU's official history, *One Hundred Years on the Hilltop: The Centennial History of Southern Methodist University* by Darwin Payne.

Gosnell loved interacting with researchers and especially enjoyed mentoring students, from undergraduates to graduate school interns, Martin adds.

Among the accolades she received was a 2020–21 Faculty Senate Award for Outstanding Staff Members and the 2022 *Rotunda* Outstanding Staff Award in recognition of her work with students.

An SMU Faculty Senate resolution recognized her lasting impact: "Joan Gosnell is hereby honored and remembered for her irreplaceable service, unending efforts, and enduring contributions to the field of librarianship and the documentation and archiving of this campus' history."

A longtime member of Friends of SMU Libraries, Gosnell was a current board member after having served several terms previously. "She volunteered and supported so many of our events, and I know we will all miss seeing her at Friends functions," says Amy Carver '94, director of Friends and community engagement for SMU Libraries.

Gosnell is survived by her husband, Craig Reynolds of Plano; her cat, Sushi; her aunt, Pris Hawes of Half Moon Bay, California; and her many friends across SMU. ■



Scan the QR code with your phone to contribute to the recently renamed Milazzo/Gosnell Archives Fund, which Joan Gosnell helped establish in support of the archives and in memory of archivist Lee Milazzo.

Hamon's recent gifts include historic Chinese footage and Texas arts legends' materials

SMU Libraries' reputation as leaders in long-term collections stewardship and preservation continues to grow, attracting significant materials that open a world of new opportunities for scholarship, research and appreciation.

Hamon Arts Library alone received more than a dozen gifts over the past year that expand the depth and breadth of its

resources in the visual and performing arts, as well as art history.

Among them is a donation to the G. William Jones Film and Video



Collection by attorney Anne McNamara of her father's film. John McNamara served as an Associated Press photographer in Shanghai, China, during the Chinese Civil War in the late 1940s. He shot 16 mm film while traveling with Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek's army. The footage includes the fall of the Central Bank of China and shows mounted police restraining citizens.

The library's Bywaters Special Collections, which primarily focuses on the cultural history of the American Southwest,

welcomed the papers of several giants of the North Texas arts scene. They include Adrian Hall, an early pioneer of the repertory theater movement in this country and a regional Tony Award winner; Len Jenkin, an Obie award-winning screenwriter and director; and Peter Wolf, a scenic designer whose long career started on Broadway and led him to the role of chief set designer for

the Dallas Summer Musicals. Wolf also created designs for the State Fair of Texas, several world's fairs and Six Flags Over Texas theme park.

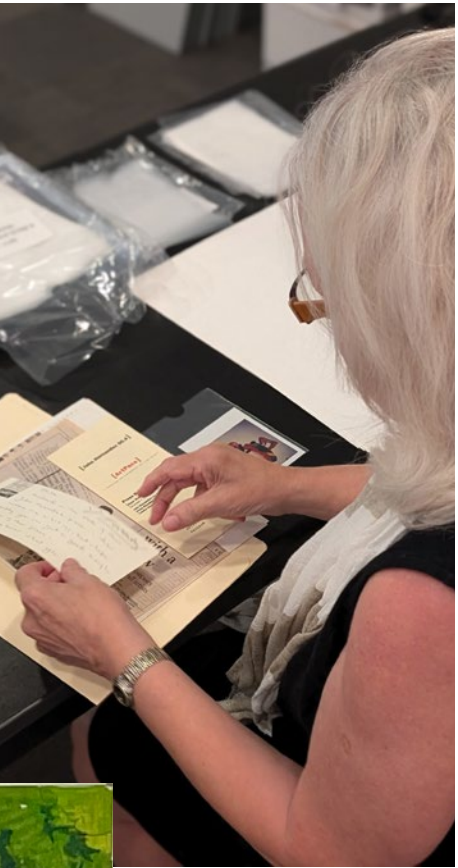
Another towering figure is Murray Smither, perhaps best known as the co-founder of several influential galleries, including the Delahunty Gallery, which

championed local and emerging artists. His long-standing support for new talent extended to SMU, where he served on the advisory board for the Pollock Gallery in SMU's Meadows School of the Arts.

The Smither collection inspired Hamon Arts Library to invite the public to witness part of the preservation process in the Mildred J. Hawn Gallery earlier this fall. Ellen Niewyk, former curator of the Bywaters Special Collections, retired in 2021 but returned to undertake the

project. Visitors could watch as she began to carefully organize and catalog the diverse assortment of materials, which will eventually be available for study as part of the library's special collections. ■

Read more: smu.edu/libraries/smither



Above left Film shot by Associated Press photographer John McNamara, now a part of the G. William Jones Film and Video Collection, pulls back the curtain on a tumultuous period in China. **Left** The Wolf collection consists of his incredible sketches, including backdrop designs for *A Christmas Carol*, the musical *Look Ma, I'm Dancin'!* and *My Fair Lady* (pictured left). **Above** Curator Ellen Niewyk returned from retirement to organize and catalog materials from the vast Murray Smither collection.



MUSTANGS ON THE MOVE



A Stewart Copeland, founder of the British rock group The Police, checks out *Torn Apart*, an exhibit at Hamon Arts Library featuring punk and new wave graphics and memorabilia, including early posters for his iconic band. **B** Let's define "mascot": Dean Holly Jeffcoat with Louie the Cardinal from the University of Louisville and Peruna in the Fondren Centennial Reading Room. The mascots were on campus to celebrate SMU's membership in the Atlantic Coast Conference. **C–F** Photos and fun abound at Friends, Families and First Years on the Boulevard. SMU Libraries and Friends host the welcoming event for new Mustangs during Family Weekend.

G The 2024–25 Friends of SMU Libraries board gathers for the first meeting of the academic year at Bridwell Library. **H** Donor Trevor Rees-Jones joins SMU dignitaries for a viewing of the magnificent photos captured by Carleton Watkins in *Yosemite: The Manchester Album*, now a part of the Rees-Jones Collection (see Pages 6–7). **I** SMU Libraries launches the fall semester with sips and nibbles for faculty members. **J–O** SMU's favorite mascot is the center of attention at the SMU Libraries' Pastries with Peruna during Homecoming Weekend. At the lighthearted event for the entire community, Peruna shows off a self-designed "Kiss the Cook" apron in photos with friends (and family). XO and Pony Up!

Bridwell’s Anthony Elia addresses World Methodist Conference

The World Methodist Museum at SMU was in the spotlight when Bridwell Library Director Anthony Elia delivered two lectures at the World Methodist Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Over 200 attendees gathered to hear Elia discuss the history and curation of Methodist museums at the gathering in August of denominations with Methodist heritage from around the globe.

In 2021, Bridwell Library was named the recipient of the historical and theologically significant collections of the World Methodist Museum,

held in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina.

Drawing from his experience in presenting the archival materials as an expression of today’s international Methodism while paying tribute to the past, Elia addressed how museums have changed and what can be done to further inclusivity and diversity. During Q&A sessions, he emphasized “the need to listen more carefully to a broad constituency of peoples and invite others into the conversation.”

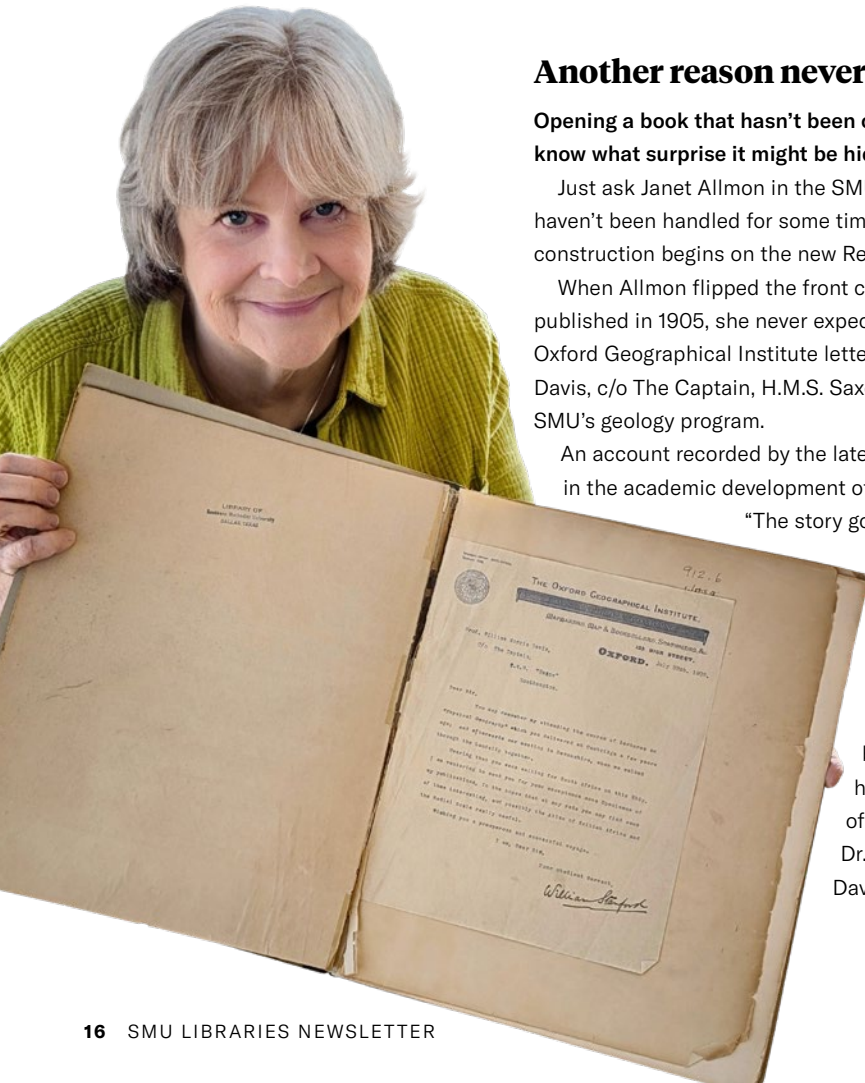
More than 1,100 delegates from dozens of countries attended the conference, which is held every



Bridwell Library Director Anthony Elia outside the Lund University Library in Lund, Sweden.

five years in different locations. Opportunities to make fruitful connections with Methodists from distant countries were high points for Elia.

“Two bishops from South Africa asked if I would come to speak at their institutions after the lectures,” he says. “I also met some very interesting and thoughtful Methodist laity and leaders from Oceania, including a few from Fiji and Samoa, along with leaders of the Uniting Church in Australia. Overall, it was an extraordinary opportunity to meet laity and leaders from the Methodist Church coming from all over the world.” ■



Another reason never to judge a book by its cover

Opening a book that hasn’t been circulated in a while is like lifting the lid of an old trunk. You never know what surprise it might be hiding.

Just ask Janet Allmon in the SMU Libraries’ cataloging department. She’s reviewing books that haven’t been handled for some time in preparation for the relocation of Fondren Library materials before construction begins on the new Rees-Jones Library of the American West.

When Allmon flipped the front cover of *The Oxford Atlas of the British Colonies: Part 1, British Africa*, published in 1905, she never expected to find a letter pasted inside. It was written by William Stanford on Oxford Geographical Institute letterhead and dated July 28, 1905. Addressed to Professor William Morris Davis, c/o The Captain, H.M.S. Saxon, Southampton, the short missive links the book to the founding of SMU’s geology program.

An account recorded by the late Claude C. Albritton, a geology professor, administrator and key figure in the academic development of SMU over five decades, reveals the provenance of the atlas and letter:

“The story goes, and I’m sure it’s true, that when [Ellis W.] Shuler, an outstanding physiographer, decided he would come to SMU from Harvard after completing his Ph.D., [Harvard Professor William Morris] Davis said, ‘What are you going to do for books?’ And Shuler shook his head and said, ‘Well, I guess we’ll just have to do the best we can and see if we can acquire library funds.’ Whereupon Davis said to ‘show up at my house with a wheelbarrow next Sunday, and I’ll give you some books.’ So Shuler did, and put in one of the hardest days of labor that he had in his life, because Davis gave him 1,400 volumes and 10,000 offprints. And that was the nucleus of the geological library here at SMU. Dr. Shuler was himself a collector of books, and he added his own to the Davis collection and presented both of them as gifts to the University.”



You’ll always have a seat at our table

..... Friends of SMU Libraries

Tables of Content

Saturday, March 29, 2025

See what else Friends is serving up this semester (and next)

Holiday Luncheon
December 10, 2024

Author Benjamin H. Johnson *Texas: An American History*
March 4, 2025

Annual Dinner
May 6, 2025



There’s more on our menu
Join us!



REES-JONES COLLECTION ACQUIRES KIOWA LEDGER

Drawing on the pictographic traditions of his culture, Etahdleuh Doanmoe, a 20-year-old Kiowa warrior, depicted scenes from his life in a sketchbook known as the “Kiowa ledger.” The collection of 24 colorful illustrations dates from August 1876, while Doanmoe was imprisoned at Fort Marion in St. Augustine, Florida, following the Red River War of 1874–1875. Trevor Rees-Jones purchased the sketchbook, which has been added to the Western Americana collection at SMU. “Native American ledger art is incredibly rare,” says DeGolyer Library Director Russell L. Martin, III. “Doanmoe’s example has much to tell us about his life, in particular, and the clash of cultures in the Southwest, in general.” [Read more about the Rees-Jones Collection on Pages 6–7.](#)

