Hello, friends, supporters, fellow Longhorns.

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the University of Texas Libraries for the fiscal year 2014-15.

As I look back on my first full year as Vice Provost of the University of Texas Libraries, I’m amazed at how much we’ve accomplished. There’s far too much to be contained in a mere twenty pages, but we’ve selected some highlights to review from the final efforts of my predecessor and a measure of my time thus far on the Forty Acres.

Over the last year, there has been much transformation in these Libraries — both materially and strategically — as it should be in any institution that hopes to remain vibrant in order to meet the ever-evolving needs of its constituents. We’ve seen the reimagining of spaces, long in the planning, come to fruition for the benefit of our users. We’ve watched dynamic projects emerge from the seeds of ideas to become beneficial realities for our patrons and ourselves. We’ve contemplated our practices, and begun to adapt them to the change that constantly surrounds us.

What has been presented to me as an opportunity to take a fully-formed institution and reconceive it to meet critical new priorities and demands has been a humbling experience. I’m setting a course for a new destination, and I hope you’ll join us on this journey.

Great libraries make great universities, and we will continually strive to make ourselves and our university greater, because all that starts here, changes the world — one student, one faculty member, one researcher, one mind at a time.

Dr. Lorraine J. Haricombe
Vice Provost and Director, University of Texas Libraries
Teaching & Learning

The Libraries are constantly exploring new ways to expand beyond the role of resource providers into areas that directly impact the processes of teaching and learning across the campus of UT. Faculty find ways to expand their classrooms to the Libraries, and a long planned re-envisioning of space becomes a reality.
As libraries seek to become more integrated with faculty, teaching and student learning, we’re discovering ways to create crossover between the classroom and library spaces.

The inception of an exhibit series at the Architecture & Planning Library had the unintended consequence of engaging faculty by providing their classes direct interaction with primary resources in the library’s collections. The “To Better Know a Building” series seeks to explore buildings through drawings and other visual items found in the archives and library. These materials that visually communicate design intent are now being used as a vehicle in teaching through example by School of Architecture faculty member Charlton Lewis. Lewis brings students from his Construction 1 course to view the exhibits, and creates class assignments to highlight how archival materials can be used to inform the development of future professionals.

In late 2014, a visiting resident in the College of Fine Arts — American artist David Horvitz — requested to have his seminar in the Fine Arts Library. Through his own art, Horvitz works in virtual and physical media, and uses various systems of circulations — such as the internet, postal services and libraries — to disperse images, objects and experiences. He was able to use the Fine Arts Library to help students understand such a system which is at the core of his art.

Libraries as a vital teaching and learning space beyond the classroom are only beginning to be realized. As spaces are redeveloped to meet modern needs of the university community, we can expect to see even more novel approaches to the educational experience in these very places.
Furthering the theme of space transformation with an eye toward creating new synergies for libraries and academic units across campus, the entry level of the Perry-Castañeda Library experienced a notable facelift in 2015.

A 20,000 square-foot renovation — the largest since the building’s 1977 opening — provides expanded space for 21st century learning. The “Learning Commons” includes five technology-rich classrooms for adaptive, collaborative learning techniques, a 44-seat media lab with high-end software, and consultation and meeting areas available to all students and faculty who want to incorporate digital literacy into their courses.

The new space hosts the University Writing Center, an academic service unit of the College of Liberal Arts, in a first-of-its-kind partnership with the Libraries designed to streamline student resources and create a one-stop-shop for student research and productivity.

In addition to writing assistance from writing center staff and support for digital media projects using enhanced media lab hardware and software, students will continue to receive instruction and research consultations with professional librarians.

There are plans to introduce additional services and workshops through future campus partnerships, including oral communication consultations for presentations, drop-in tutoring sessions with staff from the Sanger Learning Center and help with statistical analysis using specialized software now available in the Learning Commons.

Make It New: The Learning Commons at PCL
Community

The concept of library as third space is no longer a new suggestion. As with any other gathering place where people meet to share experiences and ideas, the academic library serves to build strong connections between the university and its various communities — those on the Forty Acres, as well as those beyond the boundaries of campus. The Libraries build a digital preservation tool to commemorate a somber anniversary, and recognition is given to two women whose legacies are bound to the Libraries and University.
Surviving Memories: Mapping Katrina

Libraries are naturally suited to preserving the artifacts of personal history, especially as digital infrastructures are bolstered and library experts are discovering ways to use new technologies to further the institution’s mission.

In 2015, the Libraries recognized the 10-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina by inviting community members displaced or otherwise impacted by the storm to participate in an event at the George Washington Carver Library in East Austin to catalog personal memories of one of the deadliest and costliest natural disasters in American history.

The event — “Katrina & Memory” — provided the basis for the development of an online map that documents and preserves stories from survivors affected by the storm, almost 60,000 of whom settled as virtual refugees in the Austin-San Antonio corridor after escaping the devastation.

The memory map was created through the work of PCL Map Collection manager Katherine Strickland, who built upon a project coordinated with students from the university’s School of Information. The map relies on groundwork laid by the Hurricane Digital Memory Bank (HDMB) — a similar project of George Mason University and the University of New Orleans in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History.

The Libraries and the University of Texas Press hosted an installment of KUT’s “Views and Brews” series — hosted by Rebecca McInroy — featuring a panel that discussed the socioeconomic and cultural effects of the storm on various affected populations, with NPR correspondent John Burnett, former Austin mayor Will Wynn, and faculty Dr. Eric Tang and Dr. Shirley Thompson, as well as Kevin Goodman, a New Orleans native who returned to the Big Easy after the storm.
Women of Distinction: Recognition for Benson and Lozano Long

Libraries exist both for the benefit of society and by the beneficence of a society that sees the institution as a common good.

The Libraries recently reflected on the influence of two women who helped to fortify the study of Latin America at the university, and honored them accordingly.

In early 2015, LLILAS Benson Latin American Studies and Collections celebrated the memory of Dr. Nettie Lee Benson and the achievements and generosity of Dr. Teresa Lozano Long at the unveiling of two bronze plaques in Sid Richardson Hall recognizing their contributions.

LLILAS Benson director Charles Hale provided a warm introduction to attendees, and UT President Bill Powers followed, remarking with admiration of the late Nettie Lee Benson, a librarian and scholar, whose vision and tenacity built the Benson Collection into one of the world’s premiere collections of Latin American materials. Powers also spoke to the significant contributions — material and intellectual — that Lozano Long and her husband Joe Long have made to Latin American scholarship and to The University of Texas at Austin.

The Longs shared the ceremony with family and friends, and Benson was represented in attendance by her three nephews, Bill, Doug and Joe Benson.
Expertise

It’s easy to overlook the unheralded skills of library staff by attributing more simplistic pursuits of gathering and organizing books as the embodiment of the career professional. Our technology specialists help to build and launch a web portal for Medieval history, and our specialists travel abroad in search of rare treasures.
Online users can now travel back in time to the medieval world by clicking through a collection of international research on the first digital platform of its kind from The University of Texas at Austin.

Launched in Fall 2015, the web portal known as “MappaMundi” — a Latin word meaning “world map” — presents the world of 500-1500 A.D. on a modern platform created by UT Libraries. It opens a gateway to the digital resources collected through the Global Middle Ages Project, founded in 2007 by Geraldine Heng, an associate professor of English and comparative literature at UT Austin; and Susan Noakes, a French and Italian professor at the University of Minnesota.

This digital world map highlights the increased research collaboration among different disciplines on campus — along with those of partner institutions — which is essential to UT Austin’s role as a premier research university.

This growing collection allows scholars and teachers to study and analyze data, creating their own kaleidoscopic understanding of the world in deep time. The Technology Innovation and Strategy team at UT Libraries built the site in nine months, after the Global Middle Ages Project partnered with the UT Libraries to secure a two-year Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Postdoctoral Fellowship for Data Curation in Medieval Studies, a role filled by Ece Turnator, a scholar in Byzantine history.

“We are proud to have been involved with our campus partners in this important cross-disciplinary, collaborative digital humanities project. This fits well within the core mission of the modern academic library and demonstrates what’s possible at the nexus of scholarly enterprise and modern technology,” said Vice Provost and UT Libraries Director Lorraine Haricombe.
The accumulated resources of these libraries do not fall unaided onto shelves. They are strategically considered, meticulously analyzed, assembled, and made accessible by library experts who cultivate the critical resources that propel the teaching, learning and research of the university.

While many of these resources are conventional, if vital, for research purposes, there are yet other distinctive or rare materials that may only be attainable for incorporation into the Libraries collections by acquisition trips to points abroad.

To that end, in the last year, experts from the UT Libraries crisscrossed the globe with an intensified frequency in a bid to bring home unique materials to support new and distinctive research by our world-class students, faculty and researchers.

Global Studies Coordinator Mary Rader traveled to Hyderabad, India, where she combed bookstalls to return with popular “pulp” novels from Telugu culture. Dale Correa, Middle Eastern Studies Librarian, attended book fairs and met with university officials in Qatar to locate and acquire volumes on a range of subjects from Islamic law to children’s literature. Judaica and Hebraica Bibliographer Uri Kolodney captured texts on Israeli cinematic history on a trip to Tel Aviv. And Head of the East Asian Library Program, Meng-fen Su visited universities, museums and libraries across Macau, Hong Kong and Taiwan to secure access to new materials. Staff members also made finding trips to Brazil, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Puerto Rico, returning with more treasures for the Benson Latin American Collection.

There is no Amazon.com for great libraries — just a skilled and dedicated team of area experts willing to travel the world in search of the most distinctive collections.
Research

The Libraries play a core function in supporting the research and innovation for which The University of Texas at Austin is known, and much of our connection to that research involves developing and making accessible the resources and collections that inform discovery. A new global studies focus emerges, and a digital storehouse for research is reimagined and relaunched.
Research libraries are constantly striving to keep deep, distinctive collections at the forefront of cooperative collection development initiatives across institutions.

In late 2014, the Libraries joined a national collaboration for South Asian collections — the South Asian Cooperative Collection Development Workshops — through which librarians across the country seek to leverage existing practices in order to develop simultaneously a robust national collection and unique local collections. These coordinated efforts build upon local interests to concentrate on local niche specializations.

The UT Libraries own collection development staff began exploring a uniquely focused pulp fiction collection that the Libraries can provide in support of this distributed national collection. While on a brief acquisitions trip to India in early 2015, Global Studies Coordinator Mary Rader was able to seek out and acquire a number of popular literature titles in Telugu language — one of the languages taught at UT — that were not previously represented within the corpus of the national collection.

In light of current trends in scholarship that indicate a growing interest in unconventional or non-traditional subject matter, it only makes sense to focus on collections practices that enhance these underrepresented areas for the benefit of research and casual interest.
Contrary to doomsayer notions that modern technology undercuts their value, libraries are leveraging that same innovation to a distinct advantage, especially in the area of data preservation and access to research.

One such model of this is the Libraries digital repository, Texas ScholarWorks. Established in 2008 as the University of Texas Digital Repository, it was created as the open access gateway to research and scholarship at the university and a digital archive for the preservation of these works for future generations. Texas ScholarWorks connects and preserves historical and contemporary research generated by the university community, providing a central internet access point and multimedia tools for interacting with these resources.

In 2015, the repository was renamed Texas ScholarWorks to coincide with a facelift and significant infrastructure upgrade that improves the ability of users to access the products of knowledge generated at The University of Texas at Austin and broaden our understanding of the world and of ourselves.

To date, the repository has taken in over 29,000 items — including theses and dissertations, faculty research, conference proceedings, journals and papers — from more than 200 departments and units at the university, with more than 10 million downloads so far from more than 223 countries and territories worldwide.

As the Libraries move to make open access to information a priority at the university, the Libraries are in good position for success by building upon a resource conceived long ago.
Texas Libraries
2015 By the Numbers

People

2,492,477 Visitors to the Libraries
105,986 In-Person Reference Sessions
15,329 Attendees to Library Instruction Sessions
220 Full-Time Staff Members

Resources

10,613,861 Volumes Held, Print & Electronic
4,885,474 Full Text Article Request
260,651 Total Circulation
41,791 Interlibrary Loans Provided

Spaces

650,000 sq. ft. Library Space at UT
20,000 sq. ft. Library Space Renovations
$4 Million Expenditures on Improvements
Supporting the University of Texas Libraries

UT Libraries is fortunate to hold 45 endowments totaling about $4 million in value. This year we added four new endowments:

- **Tom Sheppard and Regina Traxler Nichols Libraries Excellence Fund**, the first of its kind at UT Libraries, will support the transformation and renovation of spaces.
- Melissa Myer created the **William and Margaret Petrek Endowed Book Fund**, which assists with the acquisition of public health and nursing resources.
- **David O. Nilsson Excellence Fund for Library Collections** for the general enhancement of UT Libraries resources in all formats.
- Finally, another first, the **David O. Nilsson Endowed Graduate Fellowship**, which will provide fellowships to UT Libraries graduate research assistants who have an expressed interest in teaching. Dr. David Nilsson set up a similar fund benefitting undergraduates, the **David O. Nilsson Scholarship for University of Texas Libraries Student Workers**, in 2013. We are very thankful to have an additional way to support our invaluable student employees!

UT Libraries adds more than 100,000 volumes to its collections annually. The Wish List includes items that are necessary for instruction and research. This year the following individuals enabled us to purchase the following items:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Donor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Masterpieces of Chinese Painting from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston: Tang through Yuan Dynasties</td>
<td>Henry M. Jungman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mozart: Don Giovanni. Facsimile</td>
<td>Elizabeth Maxim</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cosi fan tutte. Facsimile</td>
<td>Marjie Lawrence and David Hunter</td>
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</tbody>
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Donating through the **Adopt-A-Book** program helps UT Libraries continue to preserve and repair items that are already part of the UT Libraries collection.

Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*, adopted by Kathleen Aronson.
Jacqueline Jones’ *A Dreadful Deceit: The Myth of Race from the Colonial Era to Obama’s America*, adopted by Darrick Eugene in honor of his son, Felix Eugene.
Think Space Contributions

Student Sponsors donated $1,700, the estimated cost of providing services for one student in the new PCL Learning Commons:

- Ken Capps Family
- Page

Two newly named spaces:

- Merrill Locher Rome Research Consultation Room, named by Mike Rome in honor his wife, Merrill Rome.
- The Margaret Syverson Staff Room, named by the current director of the University Writing Center, Trish Roberts-Miller, in honor of her colleague and immediate former director, Peg Syverson.

Literary Longhorns

The Libraries premier donor group which recognizes donors with cumulative gifts of $25,000 or more.

Anonymous (3)
Austin’s Pizza
Young Boozer Family Foundation
The A. Keith Brodkin Foundation
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Librarian for First-year Programs Sarah Brandt served on the Association of College & Research Libraries Instruction Section Discussion Group Steering Committee, and co-presented the roundtable, “We’re Bringing Reference Back: Why We Returned Librarians to the Desk” at the ACRL’s annual conference.

Dale Correa was elected to the Middle East Materials Project (MEMP) Executive Committee and served as Secretary. She founded the Endangered Libraries and Archives Committee, part of the Middle East Librarians Association (MELA). Correa presented the paper “Making the Best of Limited Resources: Akhbār al-Āḥād and the Moral System of God’s Ḥikma” at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (November 22 - 25, 2015).

Jee Davis (Head, Cataloging & Metadata Services) and Kristen Hogan (English Literature and Women’s & Gender Studies Librarian) delivered a paper — titled “Diversity Means Justice: Growing Grassroots Library Staff Diversity Leaders” — at the ACRL 2015 Conference in Portland on March 28, 2015.

Cindy Fisher, Learning Technologies Librarian in Teaching and Learning Services, presented “Undergraduate as Creator, Undergraduate as Curator: Exploring the Role of the Instruction Librarian in the Digital Humanities,” at the first Library Collective conference, hosted by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Fisher was also a member of the Association of College & Research Libraries Instructional Technologies Committee, and Secretary/Archivist of the Library Instruction Round Table Executive Committee.

Jenifer Flaxbart participated in the Harvard Graduate School of Education’s week-long Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians (LIAL) in July 2015. She is Chair for the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Committee on Professional Values (2015-2016); Member, University Libraries Section (ULS) Membership Committee (2014-2016); and Member, Editorial Board for Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian.

Associate Director for Technical Services Robin Fradenburgh was elected to a three-year term (2014-2017) on the AMIGOS Library Services Board of Directors, and was appointed to the Executive Board as Treasurer for FY 15/16.

Catherine Hamer, Associate Director for User Services, presented a Lightning Round talk — “Small Budget + Big Transformation = Huge Impact: Creating the Collaborative Commons at the University of Texas Libraries” — at the Re-Think It: Libraries for a New Age conference at Grand Valley State University on August 11, 2015.


José Montelongo, Mexican bibliographer at the Benson Latin American Collection, attended Colombia’s international book fair, La Feria Internacional del Libro, held in Bogotá, in April, 2015, and participated in a public conversation with Associate Professor Gabriela Polit (UT Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese) and Consuelo Gaitán, director of Biblioteca Nacional de Colombia (National Library of Colombia).

Elise Nacca, Learning Programs Librarian, participated in the Teacher Track of the Association of College & Research Libraries Information Literacy Program.

Michele Ostrow, Head of Teaching & Learning Services, served as Vice-Chair of the Association of College & Research Libraries Instruction Section Management & Leadership Committee and as Co-Convener of the American Library Association’s MOOC Discussion Group.

Human rights archivist of the Benson Latin American Collection and Human Rights Documentation Initiative T-Kay Sangwand spoke at the ARL/SAA Mosaic Leadership Forum about diversifying the archival record through participatory post-custodial archiving. She contributed a chapter — titled “Revolutionizing the Record Through Rap: Cuban Hip Hop and Its Implications for Reorienting the Archival Paradigm” — to the anthology *Through the Archival Looking Glass: A Reader on Diversity and Inclusion*. T-Kay was also named one of *Library Journal*’s “Movers & Shakers 2015.”

Head Librarian of the Classics Library Sheila Winchester was an invited panelist for “Thinking Outside the Box: Alternative Careers Within Academia” at the joint conference of Society of Classical Studies/Archaeological Institute of America.

Learning and Assessment Librarian Krystal Wyatt-Baxter was member of several committees of the Association of College & Research Libraries: the Student Learning and Information Literacy Committee, the Instruction Section Mentoring Program Committee, and the University Libraries Section Executive Committee.
University of Texas Libraries
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