

footnotes



HIGHER LEARNING NUMBER

footnotes

FALL 2015, VOLUME 40, NUMBER 3

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On the cover: Irv Breger '31 was art editor and then editor of Northwestern's first student humor magazine, *Purple Parrot*. This cartoon appeared in the October 1930 issue of the *Parrot*. After graduation Breger cartooned for magazines, including the *Saturday Evening Post* and *Yank, the Army Weekly*, as Dave Breger. He was honored with Northwestern's Alumni Merit Award in 1946.

An exhibit on cartooning and cartoonists is on display at Deering Library until December 30. To learn more, please turn to page 2.

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from the dean of libraries



A library is not static. Even over the summer, the work of scholars and students never ceases, and library buildings and computers remain in heavy use. Along with the nonstop drumbeat of research requests from the campus community, our librarians and staff pursue a variety of projects as they prepare for another autumn surge and academic year with new resources, workshops, and special events.

The summer of 2015 marked the culmination of a set of exciting changes, any one of which would have been big on its own. Taken together, they ensure it will be a summer to remember.

The most important in terms of impact on our users was a major, once-in-a-generation digital systems migration. The new system, known as Alma, forms the backbone of our entire catalog and search software, so the change has ramifications for the whole library system. Alma, which patrons don't see, joins NUsearch, the part of the catalog you do

see. NUsearch debuted last fall as the tool for online browsing. On top of an updated bibliographic database, our search capabilities are now more robust than ever. And Alma modernizes our operations—for at least another 20 years.

Of course, a technical revamp of this scope can only be accomplished with excellent teamwork and coordination. Even though detailed planning began more than two years ago, I braced for a certain number of hitches, as with any major undertaking. Yet few occurred; I'm proud to say that the Alma implementation came about so smoothly, a casual observer could almost wonder what the big fuss was about. It's rare to make a transition of this size, and rarer still to accomplish it so seamlessly!

In addition, our staff completed an ambitious internal restructuring of our entire organization. Our leadership team and their respective groups have rethought all roles, processes, and clustering of their work, from top to bottom, to ensure we stay responsive in an era of change for higher education everywhere. I am humbled and impressed by the diversity of skills and the energy of so many people in our organization as well as by the leadership at all levels. It's our hope that while the staffing shifts are invisible to the outside, they also result in the delivery of better, more effective service that is aligned with the strategic priorities of the University.

Lastly, you may have noticed a subtle change on the cover of this issue: Our official name has changed from singular to plural. We've long felt that "Northwestern University Libraries" more accurately expresses our multifocal nature. *University Library* is the 1970s structure in the center of the Evanston campus, while *Northwestern Libraries* encompasses the system of buildings, branches, services, and resources available everywhere there is a Northwestern.

Though these large changes have come to fruition, we can never say we're at rest. We are an organization positioning itself for the future, and new horizons stretch before us.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah M. Pritchard".

Sarah M. Pritchard
Dean of Libraries and Charles Deering McCormick University Librarian



MAKING FACES

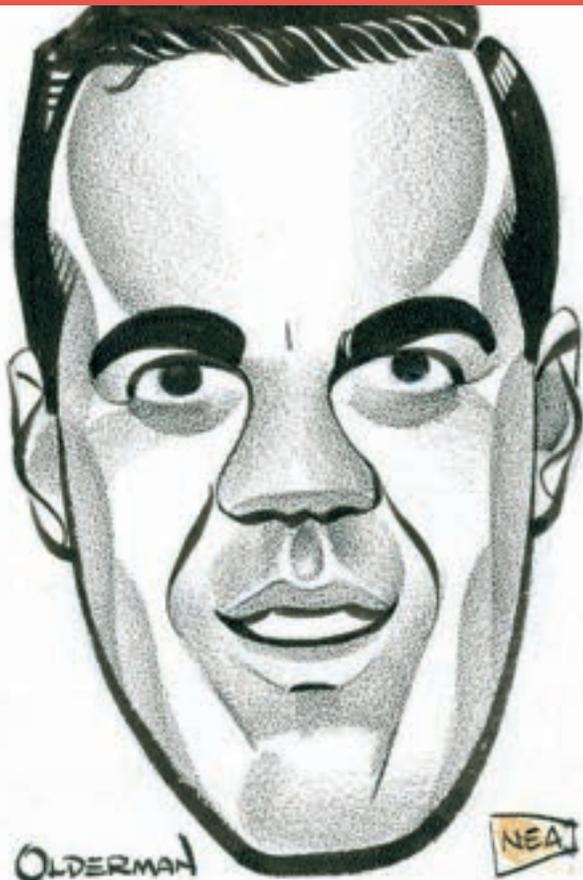


Exhibit illustrates how cartoonists convey ideas with a few deft strokes

Librarian Gene Kannenberg has a quick response to anyone wondering why the distinctive collections of Northwestern Libraries include so many doodles, scribbles, and cartoon drawings.

“Cartooning communicates directly, viscerally,” he said. “Its power is its immediate potential to educate and entertain. And sometimes to disturb.”

Kannenberg and his cocurator, librarian Jason Nargis, discovered many illustrations that accomplish those diverse goals—sometimes all at once—while curating the exhibit *Making Faces: Cartoons and Cartoonists from Northwestern Library Collections*. Culled from the holdings of University Archives and the Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections, the exhibit opened in September and runs through December 30. It features the work of alumni cartoonists as well as prints and engravings the Libraries keep for their historic and research value.

“As we studied our collections, we saw again and again how a cartoon can convey a whole story with just a few lines,” Nargis said. “Those stories could be about everything from college life to serious social and political issues. Our collection proves that cartoonists are subtle and complex satirists, and they are amazingly efficient at their jobs.”

Alumni cartoonists, a strength of Archives’ holdings, turned a particularly whimsical eye on campus living through the generations. While the collection includes comic strips from the *Syllabus* yearbook dating to the 1880s, this exhibit calls attention to 1920s cartoons from the student humor magazine *Purple Parrot*. Published from 1921 to 1950, with a brief revival in the 1970s, the *Parrot* featured the work of many cartoonists, including two who would go on to national acclaim: Irv Breger ’31, who coined the term “G.I. Joe” for his later cartoons in *Yank, the Army Weekly*, and Chester Gould ’23, best known for creating *Dick Tracy*. A later *Parrot* biography of Gould claims that

he based several of *Dick Tracy*’s villains on his Northwestern professors, Kannenberg said.

A more recent alumnus, Robert Leighton ’82, loaned original artwork to the Libraries for this exhibit, including examples of his legendary strip *Banderooge*. Shortly after arriving on campus, Leighton began drawing the comic strip about a sarcastic cat at college, lampooning real-life characters, conversations, and current events of the time. The *Daily Northwestern* ran the popular strip until Leighton’s graduation four years later. Leighton went on to create cartoons for the *New Yorker* and *Games* magazines, and he founded Puzzability, an innovative puzzle-writing company.

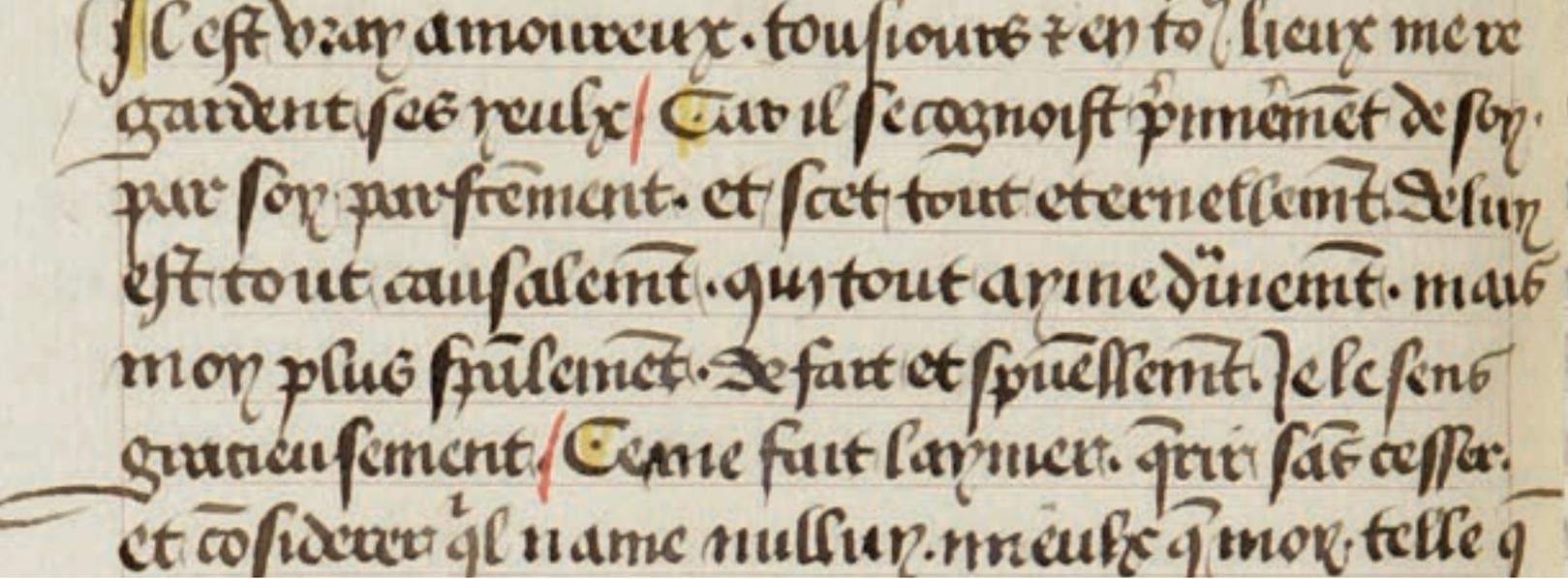
The exhibit also includes the work of such luminaries as John McCutcheon, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist for the *Chicago Tribune*, and James Gillray, the 18th-century printmaker who satirized King George III and Napoleon and is known as “the father of political cartooning.” ■

(Top left) Robert Leighton ’82, who satirized early 1980s Northwestern life through the eyes of an acerbic talking cat in his *Banderooge* comic strip, contributed this recent sketch to the exhibit. Done on the letterhead of the *New Yorker* magazine, where many of Leighton’s cartoons have appeared, it lampoons Archives’ outreach for this exhibit.

(Bottom left) Several caricatures by syndicated sports columnist and cartoonist Murray Olderman ’47 MSJ hang prominently in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Olderman has donated to Archives a large collection of his papers, which include this portrait of legendary coach Ara Parseghian, who led Northwestern football from 1956 to 1963.

(Top right) Former *Daily Northwestern* cartoonist John Musker ’75 supplied Archives with digital prints of some of his caricatures, such as this one of Maggie Smith as *Downton Abbey*’s dowager countess. Musker has enjoyed an award-winning animation career at Disney Studios, where he has codirected such films as *The Little Mermaid* and *Aladdin*.

(Bottom right) This sketch by 18th-century British caricaturist George Murgatroyd Woodward is sixth in a series of panels known as “Matrimonial Comforts.” This panel, published in 1799, is about a man coming to terms with fashionable dress. The etching is on loan from the collection of William A. Gordon ’60.



A simple list, presented to the Board of Governors this summer, contained a curious incongruity—two entries as different as ink and electrons—that speaks volumes about the modern research library.

A TALE OF TWO ACQUISITIONS

Purchases reveal the divergent worlds served by the modern academic library

One was a medieval manuscript handwritten in French, the other an archive of modern chemistry journals. They appeared on an annual creation known informally as the “selector’s wish list,” which represents subject specialists brainstorming their ideal acquisitions beyond what their regular budgets can afford.

“When we put out the call to selectors, many requests come back for digital resources and databases, but also for unique items,” said D.J. Hoek, associate University librarian of collections strategies. “The list is a broad reflection of the range of materials we acquire.”

Wish list purchases are made possible by donations to the Annual Fund without a specific use requested. Librarians present the Board of Governors with the list each year to inform them of the library’s special purchases and get them involved, Hoek said. This year’s list included the following two strange bedfellows that reflect the wide-ranging needs of faculty and students—and the importance of having a library that can meet those needs.

The Discipline of Divine Love

“Look at this provenance,” said Hoek, excitedly gesturing at a list of names and dates. “This is what you call atypical.”

Atypical, explained Hoek, because for all of its existence, this manuscript copy of *Le livre nommé la discipline d’amour divine* (*The Discipline of Divine Love*), one of only two known from the 15th century, has been in private hands, far from public view. Its provenance—the record of an object’s owners over time—begins in the Middle Ages and names a handful of private book collectors. But now this copy of *The Discipline of Divine Love* (shown above) lives at Northwestern, available for scholarly study for the first time in its history. Its unexpected availability in a book dealer’s catalog and its uniqueness sent it to the top of the 2015 wish list. Northwestern librarians urgently wanted to acquire the rare gem before it could go back into private vaults.

the cation $\text{Pt}(\text{NH}_3)_4$ and the anion PtCl_4^{2-} at 350°C in a continuous reactor at atmospheric pressure. In the first the platinum was introduced by ion exchange of the Na or Ca ions by the $\text{Pt}(\text{NH}_3)_4$ cation, whereas in the latter case the Pt was introduced into the catalyst by impregnation of the PtCl_4 anion. Both catalysts showed steady, comparable activity for a period of 29 hours. The product composition approaches the equilibrium proportions of the various isomers. The total amount of C_6 -hydrocarbons varies from 92 to 87 mole % in various runs reported, and of these the amount of nonisomerized n-hexane is 19-22 mole %; 19-22% of 3-methylpentane, 14-16% of

A mystical theological treatise about achieving union with God, *Discipline* excited the Northwestern faculty most likely to make use of it. Medieval history expert Robert Lerner, Weinberg College's Peter B. Ritzma Professor in the Humanities, brought it to the attention of Scott Krafft, curator of the Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections.

"This manuscript is important enough that it will continue to be cited," Lerner wrote to Krafft at the time. "Being identified as a Northwestern manuscript, it will provide important support for our long-standing identity as a center for the study of medieval culture."

Krafft said acquiring the manuscript builds upon the library's strengths while responding to the requests from faculty who make use of its holdings.

"Special Collections accommodates the particular needs of specific users," Krafft said. "It's our job to ensure that these objects are preserved so they can be studied and admired for generations to come."

Taylor & Francis Online Chemistry Journal Archive

A few entries down the wish list is an archive of chemistry journals. Not the print version of those journals—the Libraries already own those—but the digital duplicates.

"Seems worlds apart from a medieval manuscript, doesn't it," Hoek acknowledged. "Each of these purchases accomplishes a different goal for the University."

Why is a digital archive of relatively recent chemistry journals considered a priority on a par with a medieval manuscript? Because faculty needs require it, said chemistry librarian Elsa Alvaro. The digital archive of chemistry-related journals from Taylor & Francis, a major academic publisher, covers 40 titles with more than 1,400 volumes dating back to 1958.

"Rare books are useful in some fields, but in science the key is instant access to any journal article," Alvaro said. "The pace of research is so fast in chemistry that most users don't have time to track down our print journals. So this purchase is not about bringing in new content; it's about improving access."

The digital archives come with thorough indexing, full-text searchability, and complete coverage. Furthermore, easy access to digital versions means that physical copies might be moved to an offsite facility, freeing up space for other use.

The way Alvaro sees it, the Libraries are contributing directly to the University's academic reputation. Northwestern's chemistry program is already world renowned, she said, "and the Libraries play a key role in that by providing access to the information scholars need to carry out their research.

"Yes, I have a completely different focus than rare books," Alvaro said. "It's just terrific that we are able to support such diversity." ■

The 2015 wish list

The top 2015 "selector's wish list" items, in order of priority, all of which will soon be available at University Libraries:

- *The Discipline of Divine Love*
- Thomas Edison papers (digital archive from Rutgers University)
- British Periodicals III (digital collection focusing on the first half of the 20th century)
- Taylor & Francis Online Chemistry Journal Archive
- World Biographical Information System Online (covering six million historical figures)
- NAACP Papers Collection, Part 5 (including board records, speeches, and staff files)
- Taylor & Francis Behavioral Science Journal Archive (more than 120 journals dating to 1851)

HIDDEN T

O F N O R T H W E S T E R N U N

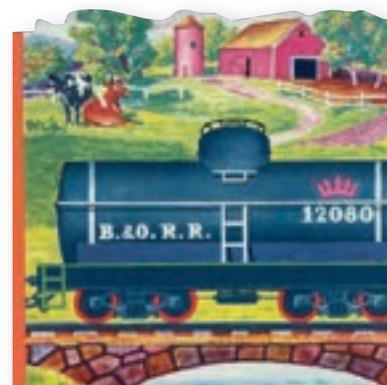
Every special collection at Northwestern has room for whimsy and the unexpected. Over time, the Transportation Library has been the happy recipient of toys and curios, said head curator Roberto Sarmiento. Among the library's 500,000 items supporting the study of air, rail, highway, and water transportation are the following holdings that wander into untraditional territory.



Handcarved wooden buses. Lifelong transportation enthusiast and former bus industry executive William Luke, who founded *BUSRide* magazine in 1965, has donated thousands of items from his personal collection of industry-related materials. Since the first donation in 2012, the Luke Transportation Collection has grown to include local transit maps, transit tickets, timetables, and realia like these colorful toys, complete with working wheels and smooth rolling action.

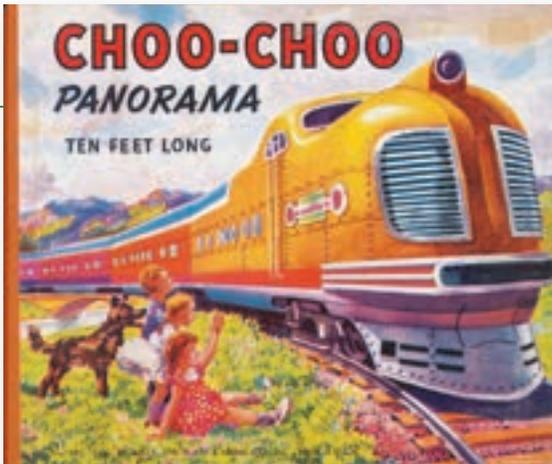


Chicago police doll. Equipped with truncheon, sidearm, handcuffs, and iconic checkered hat, this policewoman came to the collection through an unknown donor, Sarmiento said, most likely a law enforcement officer taking one of the many Northwestern Center for Public Safety classes that draw on the library. The Transportation Library maintains significant holdings specific to law enforcement and police management.

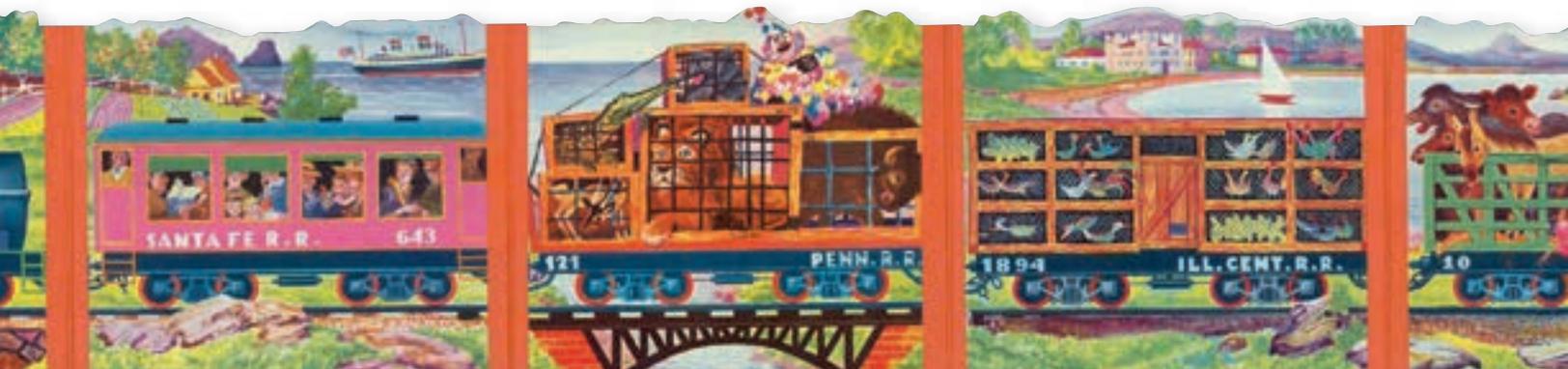




United Airlines playset. This 25-piece licensed playset, made of plastic and die-cast metal, represents one way the company has marketed itself since the turn of the century, Sarmiento said.



Folding picture book. Made of thick board-backed pages held together by canvas cloth, this 1945 book unfolds to a 10-foot panorama. Sarmiento acquired it from a dealer who knew Sarmiento sought representations of the transportation industry in any medium.



New development director joins Libraries



Jennifer Mullman '99, new director of development for Northwestern Libraries, says she learned to be a storyteller as a student in the Medill School of

Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications, and she “loves telling the story” of the Libraries’ role at the center of academic and student life.

“People connect here as they pursue their studies, and the Libraries are creating new spaces to serve them,” she said. “It’s a great message.”

Editor-in-chief of the 1999 *Syllabus* yearbook, Mullman says the storytelling skills taught at Medill have been useful throughout her career to connect people to causes and organizations. Mullman comes to Northwestern Libraries from the Chicago-based nonprofit Openlands, where she was director of external relations. The conservation advocacy group is dedicated to protecting the natural spaces of northeastern Illinois.

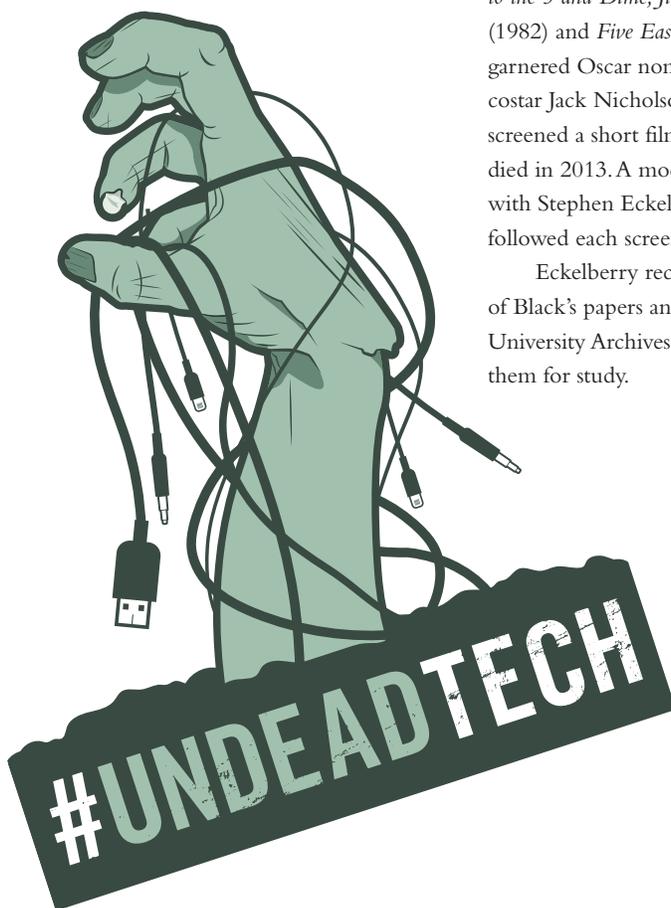
“I see my new role as an extension of my work with nature groups,” she says. “It’s the same mindset. At the Libraries we preserve a collection so it can be studied and enjoyed by generations to come. My job is to help people understand that and get excited about it.”

Campaign breathes life into dead tech

A joint project of University Archives and the Libraries’ digital collections department used the power of social media—and zombies—to further the preservation of Northwestern history.

For two weeks in October the #UndeadTech campaign used forums such as Facebook and Twitter to encourage users to donate old cords for cellphones and other electronic devices. Personal collections are increasingly being donated with dead electronic devices separated from their charging cords, University archivist Kevin Leonard said, and “archivists must bring the devices back to life”—hence, the zombie-themed campaign to acquire hard-to-find cords.

Through donation boxes across campus, the campaign netted more than 70 unique cords and cables.



Film fest celebrates Karen Black

To honor the career of Karen Black '61 and thank her family for donating her papers, in October Block Cinema screened two movies starring the late actress: *Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean* (1982) and *Five Easy Pieces* (1970), which garnered Oscar nominations for Black and costar Jack Nicholson. The cinema also screened a short film directed by Black, who died in 2013. A moderated conversation with Stephen Eckelberry, Black’s husband, followed each screening.

Eckelberry recently donated many of Black’s papers and career memorabilia to University Archives, which is processing them for study.

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OCT 17-18
2015

Deering hosts Open House Chicago

More than 1,300 architecture enthusiasts, curious visitors, and even post-Homecoming football fans visited Deering Library on October 17 and 18 for Open House Chicago, an annual festival organized by the Chicago Architecture Foundation.

Open House Chicago invites the public to come inside notable buildings, from Loop theaters and Gold Coast homes to churches, salvage yards, and warehouses. Now in its fifth year, the festival included Evanston for the first time, including three Northwestern sites: Dearborn Observatory, Alice Millar Chapel, and Deering Library. Volunteers handed out Deering brochures to the steady stream of visitors, and a representative of HBRA Architects was on hand to field questions about Library renovation plans.



Alumnae of Northwestern members (left to right) Judith Sanger '60, Sandi Riggs '65 (also a member of the Board of Governors), and Dee Hanlon '64, '99 MS. *Photo by Bruce Powell.*

Libraries honor Alumnae with leadership panel

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the Alumnae of Northwestern, the Libraries hosted a panel of alumnae leaders during Homecoming week. The panel discussion, held in the reunion tent on Deering Meadow, brought together women in powerful roles from fields as diverse as medicine, technology, finance, and journalism as they spoke about the challenges of being female pioneers in their fields. Dean of Libraries Sarah Pritchard moderated a discussion with Caralynn Nowinski Collens '99 (founder of the manufacturing research group UI Labs), Theresa Woodruff '89 PhD (a Weinberg and Feinberg professor and leading authority on the emerging field of oncofertility), Joanne Moffic-Silver '77 JD (executive vice president and general counsel of the Chicago Board Options Exchange), and *USA Today* sportswriter Christine Brennan '80, '81 MSJ.

Since 1915, the Alumnae of Northwestern University organization has promoted and supported the University by contributing millions of dollars to undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, summer internships, STEM scholarships, faculty grants, campus renovations, and other endeavors.

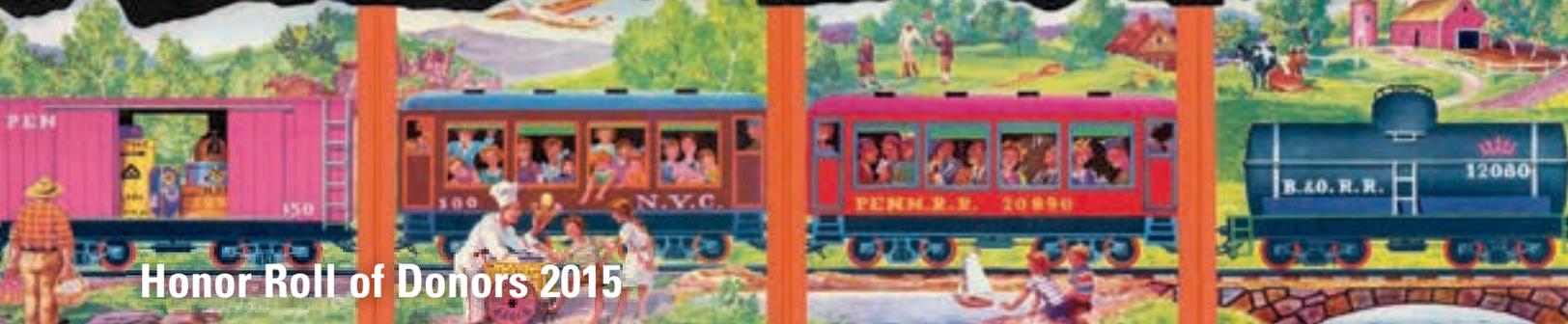


(Above, left to right) Caralynn Nowinski Collens '99, Joanne Moffic-Silver '77 JD, and Theresa Woodruff '89 PhD.

(Right) Christine Brennan '80, '81 MSJ.

Photos by Bruce Powell.





Honor Roll of Donors 2015

Northwestern University Libraries appreciates the generosity and consistency of our donors during the period from September 1, 2014, to August 31, 2015.

We ask that you alert Library Development to any incorrect information or omissions. We will correct the University's records and print corrections in the next issue of *Footnotes*.

Thank you for your help in supporting the University and the Libraries.

Please send corrections to Jennifer Mullman; Director of Development for Libraries, Press, and University Archives; Alumni Relations and Development; Northwestern University; 1201 Davis Street; Evanston, Illinois 60208-4410; 847-467-7278; jmullman@northwestern.edu.

The Deering Society

The Deering Society is an annual giving society for Northwestern University Libraries. It recognizes gifts of \$1,000 or more to any area of the Libraries, and it takes its name from the family whose philanthropy established the Charles Deering Library at Northwestern.

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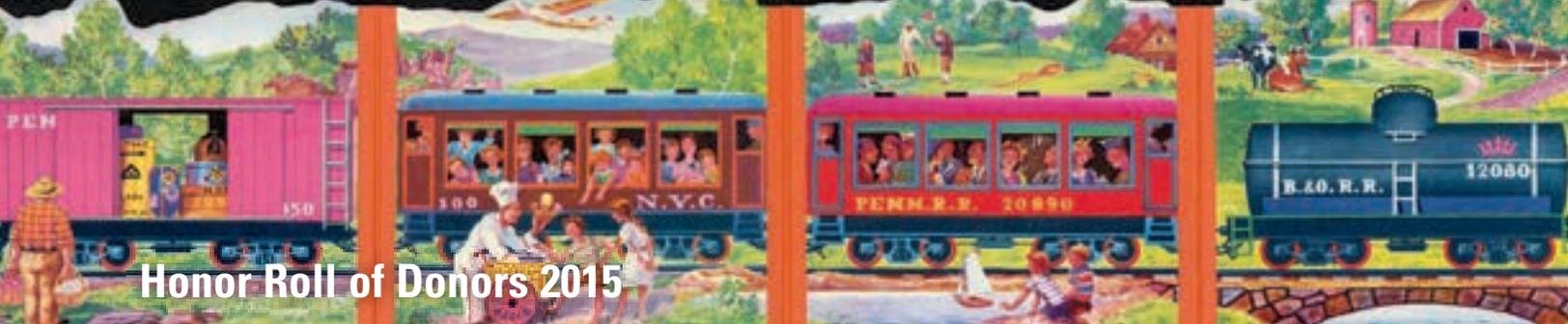
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Northwestern



Meet Elsa Alvaro, librarian for the class of 2019



When Northwestern students are told, “We have a librarian for you,” it’s not an overstatement; every class and every major has an assigned librarian familiar with its needs. There are also librarians dedicated to entire class years. For first-year students—the class of 2019—it’s Elsa Alvaro.

“I’m a friendly face for new students,” Alvaro said. “The class librarian can help new students navigate library resources, connect them with subject specialists, and answer any question about the library.”

Alvaro is also the dedicated librarian for chemistry, physics, and astronomy. She received a PhD in organic chemistry from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. She enjoyed scholarly communication so much that she added a library science degree from Indiana University.

“The class librarian is especially important for students who are undecided about a major,” Alvaro said. “We want them to know that we have them covered and that there is someone in the library dedicated to them.”