

# Librarians tackle the expense of textbooks

After listening to students' concerns about the high price of textbooks, Northwestern University Libraries decided to offer an alternative to paying for required reading.

University and Mudd Libraries are placing a growing number of textbooks on course reserve. These books can be checked out from a circulation desk for a few hours at a time—just long enough to read an essential chapter—eliminating the need to buy the whole book.

After a successful pilot program in 2016–17, the Libraries purchased 77 titles for 2017–18, said Basia Kapolka, circulation services supervisor. Librarians consulted the lists of books that faculty requested be available in the campus bookstore, then purchased the costliest books in the classes with the highest enrollment. The least expensive book made available through the pilot program sells for \$120.

“The most expensive textbooks tend to be in fields like the sciences and economics,” Kapolka

said, “but we try to be inclusive of all disciplines by ensuring that humanities courses are represented in our purchases too.”

Kapolka estimated that of the 5,200 course reserve checkouts made at University, Mudd, Math, and Schaffner Libraries in the last academic year, more than 1,000 were for books purchased exclusively for the program. Some of those were checked out more than 50 times apiece, an unusually high number, she said.

The funding for the textbook program was secured by Associated Student Government, which has made textbook affordability a focus in recent years.

“The cost of course materials is a growing concern, and every year there is greater awareness of this across campus,” Kapolka said. “We hear from students who use these books, and we know they’re appreciative.”

# Task force bolsters stories of indigenous peoples

Last year, Northwestern Libraries earmarked a portion of its collections budget to purchase materials that specifically address diversity and inclusion, netting some rare and powerful resources for studying indigenous peoples of the Americas.

Though the Libraries have always offered a wealth of materials that represent all races, religions, identities, and experiences, the topic of diversity at Northwestern has gained prominence since the 2015 creation of the University's Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion. In light of this intensified focus, Libraries leaders created a task force that could identify key gaps in the holdings and address them with an earmarked fund, said Michelle Guittar, Latin American studies librarian and a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force.

"We took a close look at where we have placed our priorities in the past and found a lot of purchases with positive implications for the study of diversity," she said. "But when it came to holdings on Native Americans and other indigenous people of the Americas, we realized that our peer libraries were ahead of us—and that we had an opportunity."

Guittar said that the 2016 opening of Northwestern's Center for Native American and Indigenous Research (CNAIR) in Weinberg College also provided inspiration. The new center comprises faculty from departments as diverse as history, religious studies, global health studies, and integrated marketing communications; its mission is to advance scholarship related to Native American and indigenous communities.

As part of an ongoing research project with survey firm Ithaka S+R, librarians interviewed



*The Native American advocacy newsletter of Carlos Montezuma, published from 1916 to 1922, often featured the Northwestern alumnus in his signature tailcoat. Wassaja, Montezuma's Apache birth name, means "signaling."*

CNAIR faculty to identify materials that would be useful in teaching and research. The purchases include ethnographic documentary collections, American Indian newspapers, and databases of photographs, documents, and correspondence.

Among the purchases are the microfilmed archives of Carlos Montezuma, a Yavapai Indian from Arizona who completed a medical degree at Northwestern University in 1889. The papers of Montezuma, believed to be the first Native American to attend Northwestern, include writings, speeches, and memorabilia from a groundbreaking career as a physician and rights activist. The originals are housed at Chicago's Newberry Library.

The task force also purchased facsimiles of multiple pre-Columbian Maya and early Aztec codices (see cover), lushly illustrated manuscripts so delicate that they could not be studied until they were reproduced on more stable paper.

"In a normal year, we wouldn't have had the budget to purchase some of these items," Guittar said. "This task force let us be proactive. We didn't wait for a faculty member to ask us to acquire things. Instead we listened to them and built the collection based on what we heard."

# 2017–18 by the numbers

For more facts, visit [libraries.nu/LibFacts](http://libraries.nu/LibFacts).



## Seeley G. Mudd Library

# 39,000

Hours that Mudd's  
13 study rooms were reserved,  
equivalent to one room  
used continuously for 4.5 years



## Charles Deering Library

# 1,260

Processed collections  
held by University Archives,  
Special Collections, and Music Library,  
all available in Deering



## University Library

# 86,277

Items checked out from  
the Circulation Desk and  
self-service stations

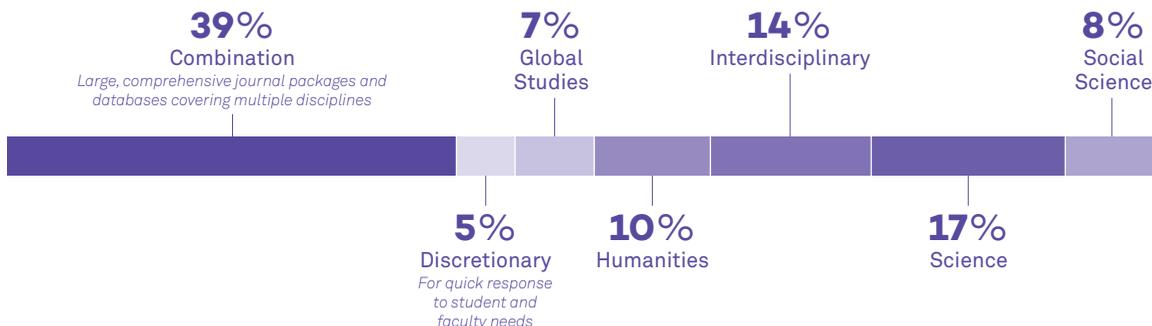


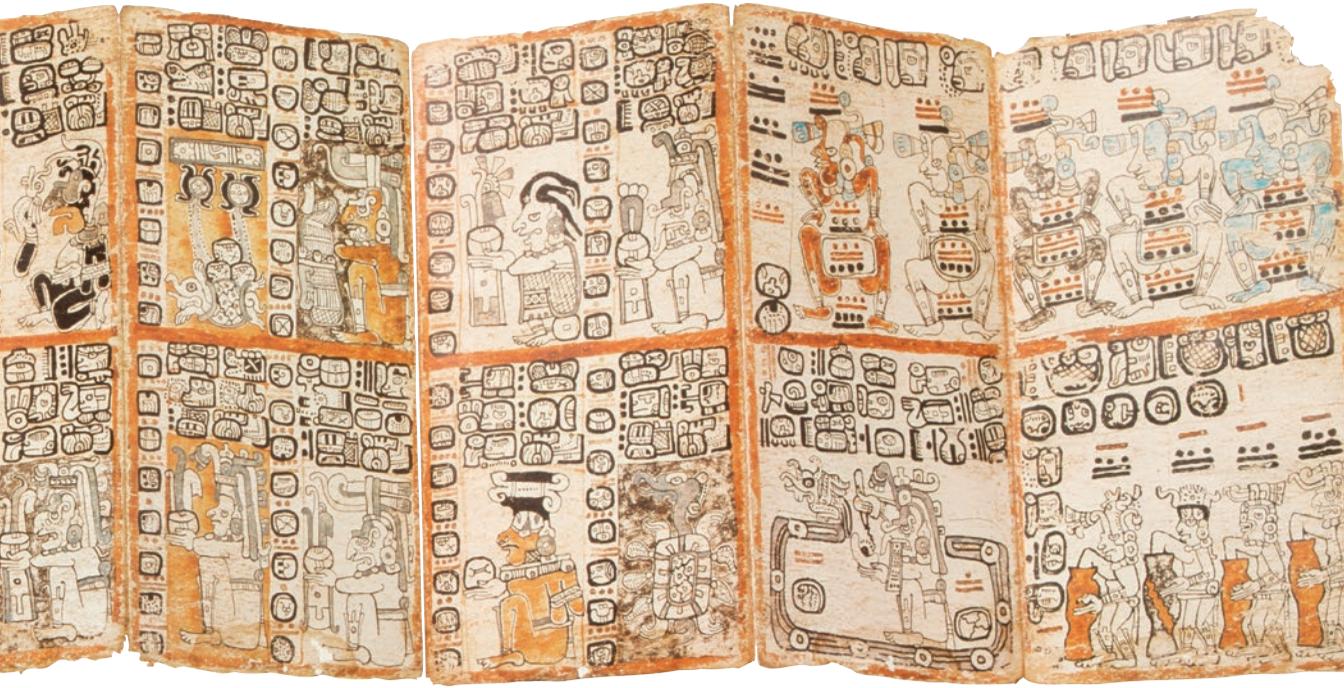
## Oak Grove Library Center

# 175,000

Linear feet of shelved books,  
equivalent to 101 Willis Towers

## Collections spending 2017–18





NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

**IMPACT REPORT 2017-18**

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## FROM THE DEAN

From the proliferation of data to the protection of privacy, the technological landscape is shifting fast. It's time to ensure that everyone has the awareness and skills to think critically, participate responsibly, and contribute thoughtfully as 21st-century citizens and scholars.

What does that mean? It means understanding the difference between fake news and vetted research; being mindful of your identity, privacy, and reputation; respecting intellectual property; considering the reproducibility and long-term preservation of your work; and adopting a critical, thoughtful, and ethical approach to the world's array of information.

Libraries are ideal partners to lead on these issues, thanks to our natural focus on retrieving, evaluating, and using information and our position as a trusted modern institution.

We are collaborating with the faculty and administration to incorporate digital citizenship into the fabric of Northwestern life. We have launched student discussions and formal research. Our future plans include publishing an open educational text, creating a non-credit intersession course, organizing a peer leadership program, and sponsoring events for faculty.

The potential impact on and benefits to the University community are great, spanning both traditional and innovative forms of scholarship. We invite everyone to engage in this conversation. We are all digital citizens, whether we're managing scientific data sets, reading an ebook, or simply posting family pictures online.



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

## Bursar takeover anniversary spurs Archives growth

An anniversary of a major campus event led to a host of new connections—and new collections—for an important set of holdings in University Archives.

Last May, Northwestern commemorated the 50th anniversary of the 1968 occupation of the Bursar's Office by black students demanding fairer treatment and better representation on campus. In conjunction with the campus programming, the Libraries mounted an exhibit of archival materials and cohosted a lecture by takeover participant Kathryn Ogletree '71.



*Alumni at the Bursar's Office, May 2018.*

Charla Wilson, the Libraries' archivist for the black experience, said those efforts are responsible for a spike in the Libraries' interactions with takeover participants. Wilson received archival donations from, among others, actress and entrepreneur Daphne Maxwell Reid '70, civil rights attorney Eva Jefferson Paterson '71, and Jim Pitts '66, '68 MA, '71 PhD, who later taught at Northwestern. More participants are in talks with the Libraries about donating their own papers, Wilson said.

The takeover materials in University Archives featured prominently in many projects during the commemoration. Documentary filmmakers, the National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Northwestern units such as Athletics, the Women's Center, Norris University Center, and Residential Life collaborated with Wilson to communicate the lasting impact of the event.

## Private eyes: Grant furthers privacy study

The Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded a grant to Northwestern University Libraries and seven partner institutions to study student attitudes about privacy. The \$514,000 grant will fund a three-year study of how creatively a university can use student data to customize learning—without intruding on students' privacy.



“This study has implications for services at universities everywhere,” said Michael Perry, head of library assessment and planning and Northwestern's lead on the grant. To give an example, Perry described a hypothetical digital course

management system that could detect when students repeatedly go back to the same reading. “Is that a sign those students are struggling to understand the material? Would it be appropriate for the university to reach out and offer support?”

The study aims to gauge whether students would find such customized outreach invasive, helpful, or simply unremarkable given the pervasiveness of modern data collection. The timing of the study is important because advances in data analysis technology are almost outpacing consumers' ability to consider how the changes could affect them, Perry said.

“Historically, libraries have been champions of privacy, so we should be the first to step back and consider the impact of using the technology,” he said.

## Gimme (archival) shelter: 1960s collections grow

Last fall, the Libraries declared a commitment to the study of the “long 1960s,” helping Northwestern become a world-renowned center for scholars looking to study the turbulent period from 1955 to 1975. Building on the Libraries’ already abundant holdings of relevant materials, subject specialists are adding collections that bring unique perspectives to this period of rebellion, experimentation, and social change. Two such acquisitions were announced this year.

### Robert Greenfield Archive

The Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections acquired the archive of journalist, novelist, and playwright Robert Greenfield. The former *Rolling Stone* editor has written books on notable figures in the entertainment world and 1960s counterculture, including the Rolling Stones, Timothy Leary, Bill Graham, and Jerry Garcia.



His archive includes hundreds of audiotapes of the interviews he conducted and notes and ephemera from the time he spent touring with various bands. The archive will take several years to process.

## Digital publishing extends the reach of research

At Northwestern’s annual Computational Research Day, faculty and students gather to showcase their work, share ideas, and learn more about the research resources on campus. In past years, the posters and presentations from the symposium, organized by Northwestern Information Technology Research Computing, might have gone unseen afterward: miss the event, miss the learning.

But thanks to Northwestern Libraries, materials from this year’s April symposium were published online and made widely available for scholars to share. Highlights include an animation simulating the formation of galaxies, a visualization of the evolution of congressional polarization, and analyses of methods that detect black holes.

“There’s a lot of really great research created here that few people get to see,” said Northwestern digital publishing librarian Chris Diaz, “so we created a service to make it easier to publish conference proceedings and scholarly journals to a wider audience.”

Having their presentations preserved and disseminated in this way helps students in particular gain visibility in their fields, pursue publishing opportunities, and burnish their professional credentials, Diaz said.

In recent years, Northwestern University Libraries have committed to sharing and preserving more research originating at Northwestern. Digital publishing efforts, like the Computational Research Day website ([crd.northwestern.edu](http://crd.northwestern.edu)), supplement services including data management

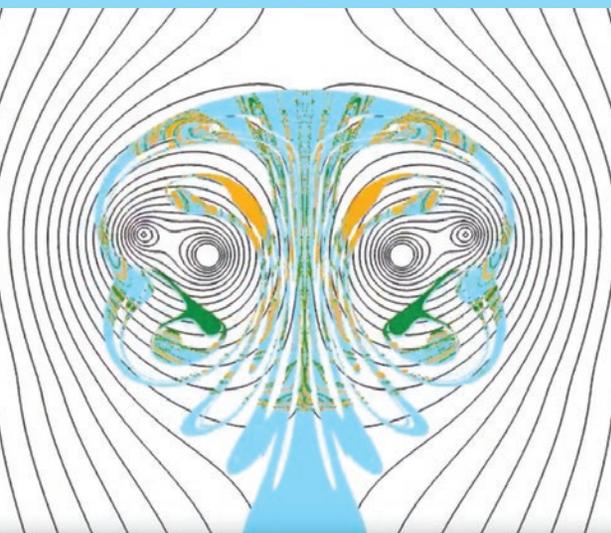
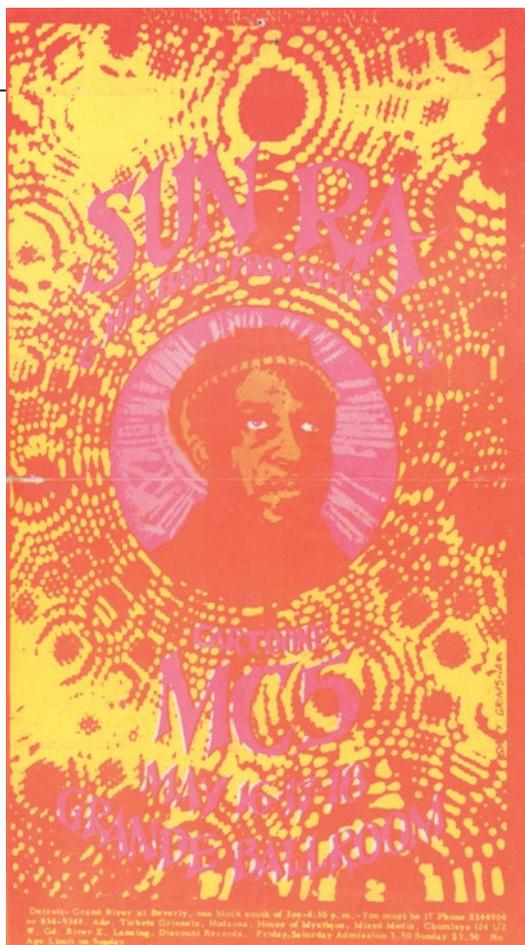


Left: Greenfield's archive includes photos of him with rock royalty like Mick Jagger, taken by Rolling Stones photographer Dominique Tarlé. Right: Postcard for a 1969 Sun Ra performance at Detroit's Grande Ballroom.

### Pat Patrick Papers

The late Pat Patrick was a saxophone player for Sun Ra, the experimental jazz composer and bandleader. Sun Ra, who claimed that he hailed from Saturn, wrote extensively on his complex beliefs about politics, religion, and the African American experience.

Patrick donated several boxes of papers documenting his association with Sun Ra, including posters, handbills, pamphlets, and manifestos. The collection overlaps with and supplements two other prominent local Sun Ra archives at the University of Chicago and the Chicago-based nonprofit Experimental Sound Studios, dedicated to preserving avant-garde music. Scheduled to be processed by the end of this year, the Pat Patrick Papers will be available in the Music Library.



support for working with large data sets and making them available for others to use; digital humanities consulting for using technology to advance humanities research; and Arch, a repository where faculty and researchers can deposit scholarly materials for long-term preservation and online accessibility.

A still from the video visualization "Fluid Dynamical Levitation of Heavy Particles" by physics PhD candidate Daniel Case. His animation, showing particles trapped amid four swirling vortices in a stream, may contribute to a better understanding of natural phenomena such as the movement of ocean sediment and sea spray.