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Welcome

In this issue of RL we celebrate the opening of the extraordinary Lisa Unger Baskin Collection, which reveals the hidden history of women’s work. Her collection opens a dizzying array of new directions in research and teaching both at Duke and beyond. This moment feels particularly poignant as we mark the passing of Professor Anne Firor Scott, who transformed the field of women’s history and who co-founded the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture.

During the past four years, librarians, archivists, conservators, and technical experts from across the Duke Libraries have worked to catalog, process, and conserve the collection so that it might be used. That work continues as we now invite the public in to see the collection for themselves. The exhibition *Five Hundred Years of Women’s Work: The Lisa Unger Baskin Collection* is co-curated by Lisa Baskin, Lauren Reno, and myself and is co-sponsored by the Grolier Club. This is the largest exhibition the Duke Libraries have presented, and it will travel in December to New York for a show in the Grolier Club. We collaborated with Lisa Baskin to produce a digital version of the exhibition as well, along with a full-color catalogue. We have events planned throughout the year, both in Durham and in New York City. Please see library.duke.edu/exhibits for a full list.

We are grateful for the generous financial support that made this acquisition and opening possible. The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation provided the lead gift, and Lisa Baskin, Sarah Peter, and David M. Rubenstein made founding gifts. The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation co-funded the events at Duke. A full listing of all of the donors to the collection can be found in the digital exhibition and catalogue. We are grateful for the support of so many alumni, friends, and foundations.

In this issue you will also find news of many other acquisitions and events of note. The Ambassador Jack and Rebecca Matlock Papers offer the inside story of the end of the Cold War, and Darrin Zammit Lupi’s award-winning photography provides a firsthand view of the Mediterranean migration crisis. Our new Records Management program is preserving history across the campus, including Duke Forest. In our busy reading room you will often find students from the John Hope Franklin Young Scholars program working collaboratively on creative and generative research projects.

There is always something new at the RL. I hope that you will visit soon—either in person or online—to see what’s here for you.

Naomi L. Nelson
Associate University Librarian
Director, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

Our Mission

The David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library builds distinctive collections of original materials and preserves them for use on campus and around the world. In support of Duke University’s mission of “knowledge in service to society,” we collect a diversity of voices in a wide range of formats, with a focus on our signature areas of strength. Our innovative use of technology, expert description and cataloging, tailored reference and instructional services, and engaging public programming provide a variety of ways to discover our holdings.

We invite students, scholars, and the general public to explore the world through our unique collections.

Signature Collections
- Archive of Documentary Arts
- Duke University Archives
- Economists’ Papers Archive
- John Hope Franklin 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
- Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture
Excerpted from the catalogue for our new exhibition Five Hundred Years of Women’s Work: The Lisa Unger Baskin Collection, on display through June 15. See page 19 for details.

Lisa Unger Baskin placed her remarkable collection on women and work with Duke’s Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture in April 2015. Carefully assembled over forty-five years, this rich and extensive collection is complemented by later twentieth-century works as well as reference materials that together create a vast and multi-faceted body of material. Baskin’s lifelong passion for collecting and preserving women’s history resonates deeply with the mission of the Bingham Center. Her approach to collection building is a kind of activism itself, and in that respect it shares much in common with the work of the Center. Baskin’s papers documenting her life and work as a collector will also come to Duke. This is especially exciting given the increasing attention to and recognition of the contributions of women collectors.

In Baskin’s own words, the unifying thread binding everything together is that “women have always been productive and working people, and this history essentially has been hidden.”

Working with the Lisa Unger Baskin Collection in the context of the Rubenstein Library and its related collections—conducting research, teaching, making art, doing activism—supports the powerful and provocative assertion first made by 1970s lesbian feminists, and more recently during the 2016 U.S. presidential election, that the Future is Female. The collection makes visible and tangible the labors and achievements of women from every walk of life—such as printers, publishers, scientists, sweatshop workers, artists, activists, scholars, craftswomen, pieceworkers, midwives, and businesswomen—and, in doing so, challenges our understanding of women’s history and contributions. In other words, the past is female—at least as female as it has been assumed to be male.

The LUB Collection has already brought many new opportunities in the relatively short time it has been at Duke. Faculty are excited that works they had long wished to use in courses are now available. For example, two works by seventeenth-century Dutch naturalist and illustrator Maria Sibylla Merian that offer the first visual documentation of metamorphosis in natural settings have been incorporated into classes on the history of science taught by Professor Tom Robisheaux. The number of women scientists incorporated into these courses has
and So Was the Past
steadily increased. A number of long-standing courses at Duke have also started incorporating a range of material from the LUB Collection. Students in Professor Genna Miller’s course on the economic history of women are fascinated to read a position statement by the mid-nineteenth-century woman-led Free-Labour-Produce Association outlining the members’ commitment to purchasing goods produced by free laborers. Likewise, the syllabus for Professor John Martin’s history course on the roles of women in the Renaissance includes Judith Drake’s 1697 *Essay in Defence of the Female Sex*, one of the first works to use a rationalist argument in support of education for women.

New courses inspired by the LUB Collection are also beginning to emerge. One example is “Women’s Medicine in Western History,” taught by Professor Seth Lejacq in the Thompson Writing Program. The course included many items from the collection, such as home health and self-care guides like the *Ladies’ Indispensable Assistant* (New York, 1852) and *Our Bodies Ourselves: A Course By and For Women* (Boston, 1970), as well as letters and publications of Margaret Sanger and Elizabeth Blackwell. Students in the class developed an exhibition of these and other items and added their own commentary. In another example of public storytelling, a team of three undergraduates and one graduate student completed a six-week research intensive that created new narratives documenting women in labor movements through Rubenstein Library collections. The online guide and exhibits developed by the team feature LUB Collection items, from manuscripts documenting the work of enslaved women to the letters of American anarchist and labor activist Emma Goldman.
The exhibition opening at Duke and subsequently traveling to the Grolier Club in New York City allows the public to see the Lisa Unger Baskin Collection for the first time. A conference at Duke in April of 2019—to be introduced by anthropologist, educator, museum director, and college president Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole—will explore the social history significance of the LUB Collection. Panel presenters will offer perspectives from a range of disciplines, from micro-history and economics to cultural and visual studies, Afrofuturism, science and technology studies, critical theory, and gender and sexuality studies. Dr. Nell Irvin Painter, artist and renowned scholar of African American history, will provide the keynote for a conference at the Grolier Club in January 2020. This gathering will explore women’s contributions to book collecting and book history. Speakers at this conference represent a constellation of professions, from rare book and manuscript sellers to book designers, artists, art historians, curators, and librarians. These conferences and a range of other events will offer visitors a chance to experience the collection directly and to see for themselves that “women have always worked.”

As Lisa Baskin predicted when she selected Duke to be the repository for her collection, it has become an “integral part of the university where it is helping to transform and enlarge the notion of what history is about.” The LUB Collection adds critical new dimensions to existing Rubenstein Library collection strengths and is creating new researcher communities within and beyond Duke. What has been eclipsed is being illuminated—the future is female, and so was the past!
As he headed to Switzerland in 1985 for a landmark first summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, President Ronald Reagan wrote a quick note that became a guiding principle for the American administration.

It said simply: “Whatever we achieve, we must not call it victory.” This hand-scribbled lesson in nuance and ego management would help direct the American team through that and future meetings with their Soviet counterparts as the two sides sought an end to the Cold War.

That note was later typed up and given to Jack Matlock, then a National Security Council staffer. Matlock would later become Reagan’s ambassador to the Soviet Union, playing a crucial diplomatic role as the two superpowers negotiated.

Matlock saved that note, as he did most things documenting his thirty-five years in the foreign service.

Duke is now the beneficiary; on February 7, the university formally opened the Duke graduate’s donated archives at the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library. It is a voluminous collection of letters, memos, planning documents, media reports, photographs, audio recordings and all manner of ephemera that trace the long journey of Matlock and his wife, Rebecca, including postings in Africa, Moscow and several spots in central and western Europe. The collection also includes his personal journal.

“We’re very proud to be the home of these archives,” said Edna Andrews, who directs Duke’s Center for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies. “They are unique. They include things scholars for decades will be using in their research. It’s wonderful.”

The archiving project is funded in part by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York.

The collection is massive—roughly two hundred boxes of materials that library staffs at Duke are now cataloguing for use by scholars and anyone else with an interest in Cold War history.
War diplomacy and politics. Much of the material illustrates the U.S. government’s strategy during the Cold War. Letters, memos and other documents show how U.S. officials approached their Soviet counterparts seeking common ground rather than through confrontational saber-rattling, said Matlock, now eighty-nine, in a recent interview.

“The archives shed light on how we ended the Cold War,” he said. “One of the specific decisions we made when planning to negotiate with the Soviet Union was that we were not going to question their legitimacy. If it was a defeat for the Soviet Union, it wouldn’t have stuck. We didn’t win the Cold War; we negotiated an end to it.”

Matlock worked on Soviet issues in various capacities for many years before taking on the ambassadorship in 1987. He retired from the foreign service in 1991 and has since held a series of academic appointments at Columbia and Princeton universities. He returned to Duke in 2015 as a Rubenstein Fellow, teaching classes on the Cold War and international leadership while beginning to sort through his massive trove of documents.

While much of the archives focuses on Matlock’s diplomatic work, it also sheds light on the life he and Rebecca led during those years.

The couple are both members of Duke’s Class of 1950. They were introduced by a mutual friend at a meeting of a campus chapter of the United World Federalists, a group that, in the late 1940s, advocated for a world government.

Jack studied history at Duke and would later get advanced degrees in Soviet studies and Russian literature at Columbia. Rebecca majored in education and would later become a high school teacher.

The couple had five children and moved around the world as Matlock’s assignments shifted. Prior to his time in the Soviet Union, Matlock held diplomatic posts in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia as well as seven years in Africa. As a result, he is able to speak Russian, French, German, Czech and Swahili.

In Moscow, the Matlocks often hosted cultural and social events at the ambassador’s residence—Spaso House. Rebecca was both a photographer and designer of tapestries, and exhibited her work in cities around the Soviet Union.

There are rich details about these lighter moments in the archives as well; in one memo, a staffer debates which of two American films to show a Soviet audience: “The Karate Kid” or “Splash.” It’s not clear which was chosen.

“They were ambassadors of American culture,” said Meghan Lyon, an archivist at the Rubenstein Library who is managing the processing of the collection. “This was about how Soviet people perceived America and what the Matlocks wanted people to understand about American culture and humor. So the collection shows the planning that would go into those events.”

Duke archivists are now developing a guide for members of the public interested in the collection. It will be available online to help anyone who wants to request materials. The collection’s individual documents won’t each be digitized.

Originaly published on today.duke.edu.
In 2018, the Duke University Archives worked closely with the Duke Forest to facilitate the transfer of its historical records to the Rubenstein Library. The Duke Forest, managed by Duke University since 1931, consists of over 7,000 acres of forested land and open fields in Durham, Orange, and Alamance counties. Used for research, education, and outreach, the Duke Forest has been an important part of the Triangle area for many years and has a rich history. However, until this year, none of this important history resided at the University Archives.

Duke Forest Director Sara Childs and others helped us to transfer over 90 linear feet of Duke Forest’s history in a variety of formats, including maps, papers, photographs, and three-dimensional objects. These materials were kept by Duke Forest in multiple locations, including a building near the Lemur Center and a storage room in the basement of the North Building. Archives staff made several visits to each site to ensure materials were inventoried, boxed, and

Top: Illustration from a scrapbook created by the class of 1969 that documents the life and work of Forestry students at Duke.

Above: This aerial photograph depicts West Campus in 1951. Duke Forest regularly commissioned aerial shoots of campus and surrounding Duke Forest areas.

Right: Duke Forest routinely sells lumber from the logging operations that help shape and protect Duke Forest. These ledgers detail these financial transactions.

Opposite page, bottom: This photograph shows logging equipment working throughout the winter snows in Ontario. Administrators from Duke Forest routinely studied other logging operations around the world.
labeled for transport. The final transfer involved carefully packing, wrapping, and moving over a dozen drawers from a map cabinet with oversize materials inside, to be just as carefully unwrapped and moved into folders and oversized drawers in the Rubenstein’s stacks. The records are all now safely housed within the Rubenstein, and a preliminary inventory is available to allow researchers to use the collection.

The collection contains a fascinating array of materials that illuminate Duke Forest in all of its complexity. Maps and aerial photographs show changes over time on a large scale, while photographs of people, events, and even trees provide a more intimate look at the forest. Financial ledgers record lumber sales over the years. Some objects provide a tangible link to moments in time—a student scrapbook with a handmade cover, for instance, or the camera used to document the first days of research in the forest. This collection documents the many people who have worked, researched, and enjoyed Duke Forest over the past eight decades. Having these historical records at the University Archives will ensure their preservation for generations to come.

Below: This hand-drawn image of the Korstian division by cartoonist William Nealy shows the natural features of this part of the Duke Forest. In addition to the Korstian division, there are five other divisions of Duke Forest: Durham, Hillsboro, Edeburn, Dailey, and Blackwood.
The John Hope Franklin Young Scholars are a cohort of gifted middle-school students from Durham schools. They are selected to participate in a one-year immersive project focusing on a special topic that requires historical research, analysis, and a final product. The program was founded in 2009 by program director David Stein and is sponsored by the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership. The Young Scholars provides a unique experience for these students, and many who have gone through the program return to serve as mentors for the next class.

Over the course of the program’s ten years, Stein, with the help of Rubenstein staff, has coordinated a number of visits to the library to introduce the students to our collections. For example, the Young Scholars visited the library in the summer of 2014 to celebrate Dr. John Hope Franklin’s centenary and explored the papers of Dr. Franklin himself. That same year, they produced a graphic novel based on Franklin’s life entitled Running for Hope as their final project.
This past year, the Young Scholars’ research topic was “Freedom Crafters,” which they defined as free or enslaved African Americans who practiced a craft, trade, or otherwise “crafted” their way to freedom by taking control of their lives and running away. Collaborating with the Franklin Research Center, the students used our library classroom to explore slave narratives documenting the lives of Henry “Box” Brown and Harriet Jacobs, as well as rare first editions of William Still’s *Underground Railroad* and Elizabeth Keckley’s *Behind the Scenes, or Forty Years a Slave*. They also worked with Frederick Douglass’ *North Star* newspaper and plantation records documenting slaves with trade skills. The group asked important questions about how these African Americans might have acquired their trades and how they applied them in their daily lives. After the session, students were encouraged to share with their parents their experience of touching and feeling documents that were well over 150 years old.

We look forward to welcoming future Young Scholars and seeing where their curiosity leads them.
The Rubenstein Library has acquired a photography collection by award-winning Maltese photographer Darrin Zammit Lupi. Over the last decade, he has produced a photographic history of the Mediterranean refugee crisis. His work has been featured in publications such as TIME, Newsweek, The New York Times, The Sunday Times, The Guardian, Paris Match, Der Spiegel, and others.

The Rubenstein received the “On Board the MV Aquarius, December 2017”
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN THE RUBENSTEIN LIBRARY

During the 2017 Society of American Archivists annual conference, Kelly Wooten, Librarian for the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture and co-chair of the Duke University Libraries’ Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council (DivE-In), attended a workshop led by Michelle Caswell and others on identifying and dismantling privilege in the archives. An article by Caswell includes a description of the workshop and served as a means to share the idea with colleagues in the Rubenstein Library.

Over the past eighteen months the Rubenstein Library has conducted a series of facilitated discussions about privilege in archives, seeking to identify steps we could take to increase equity and inclusion. Several action items rose to the top of our priority list: making the diversity of perspectives within our collections more visible; developing a values statement for the Rubenstein Library; making our exhibits and other spaces/programs more inclusive; researching the history of our collections and rethinking how work is credited; and intentionally using travel grants to encourage researchers from underrepresented groups. Working groups for many of these topics have formed and begun their work in recent months and the remainder will start later this year.

Our staff have taken an active role in suggesting changes to place equity and inclusion at the center of our day-to-day work. Based on their suggestions, the Rubenstein Library is now providing more information and options for those with mobility issues, including an automatic door opener to the reading room, an adjustable height table for researchers, and additional parking options. We are also thinking more intentionally about how we describe our collections, and trying to add additional information about underrepresented populations into existing finding aids.

This work is not something that will ever be “finished.” Instead, we see it as an opportunity to continuously re-evaluate how we can make our library inclusive and equitable for our researchers, staff, and visitors.

Kelly Wooten, Librarian for the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture, received the 2018 Duke University Diversity Award for her work on diversifying archival collections as well as inaugurating and leading the Duke University Libraries’ Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council (DivE-In). Kelly’s work has a profound and far-reaching impact and we celebrate this important recognition of her contributions!

project, including 2,000 JPEGs, 110 TIFFs, 26 digital contact sheets, 20 color inkjet prints, and 9 videos. While on board the Aquarius, a migrant search and rescue ship operated by the non-profit organizations SOS Méditerranée and Médecins sans frontières, Zammit Lupi witnessed and documented the rescue of 320 migrants in the central Mediterranean and their safe arrival in Pozzallo, Sicily.

The Rubenstein Library expects to receive additional projects from Zammit Lupi in the years to come.

By Patrick Stawski, Human Rights Archivist
We are deeply saddened by the passing of Professor Anne Firor Scott, a path-breaking historian, beloved professor, and fierce advocate for women’s history. Professor Scott was a co-founder of the Sallie Bingham Center and remained a strong supporter of the Center as it has grown over the years. She was the first woman to chair the Duke History Department and the recipient of countless awards and honors, including the National Humanities Medal in 2013.

In 2001 the Sallie Bingham Center published a commemorative reprinting of Professor Scott’s 1979 essay, “Self-Portraits: Three Women.” The piece offers deeply nuanced, meticulously rendered sketches of the lives of three Colonial women composed over the course of four years. Of this work, Professor Scott suggested, “Doubtless it is hubris, but I believe—could I be miraculously transported back to their time—I would recognize each...

Above: Professor Scott in 1988.


Below left: Professor Scott in 1992.
of these women on first encounter.” This observation is an example of both the lyricism and modesty for which she was well-known.

In her introduction to *Writing Women’s History: A Tribute to Anne Firor Scott* (University Press of Mississippi, 2011), Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, the Julia Cherry Spruill Professor Emerita of History at UNC-Chapel Hill, expressed a sentiment that the Rubenstein Library shares: “We are indebted to her work, grateful for her mentorship, and humbled by her unflagging energy, her bracing engagement with the world.”

Above: Scott pictured on the National League of Women Voters program in Washington, D.C., circa 1944.

Above right: Professor Scott in 1971.


Below: Professor Scott receiving the National Humanities medal from President Barack Obama in 2014.
EVENTS

FEBRUARY 7
Opening of the Ambassador
Jack F. Matlock and Rebecca
Matlock Archives
Holsti-Anderson Family Assembly
Room, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Co-sponsored by Duke’s Center for
Slavic, Eurasian, and East European
Studies, with support from the
Carnegie Corporation of New York.

FEBRUARY 13
Black Students Matter:
Taking Over Allen in ’69
Holsti-Anderson Family Assembly
Room, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Exhibit curators, Duke students,
and alumni who participated in the
Allen Building Takeover discuss the
takeover and the new exhibit.

FEBRUARY 27
Exhibit Reception and
Talk: Five Hundred Years
of Women’s Work: A
Conversation with Lisa Unger
Baskin
Abmadieh Family Commons and
Gothic Reading Room, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
A conversation with collector and
exhibit co-curator Lisa Unger
Baskin, with introductory remarks
by Edward Balleisen, Vice Provost
for Interdisciplinary Studies.

APRIL 11
Trent History of Medicine
Lecture Series: Why Did the
United States Medical School
Admissions Quota for Jews
End?
Holsti-Anderson Family Assembly
Room, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Edward C. Halperin examines
the history of anti-Semitic medical
school admissions quotas in the
United States and the current
controversy over alleged quotas
directed against Asian-Americans.

APRIL 15
Symposium on Women
Across the Disciplines:
Panel Presentations
Registration and continental breakfast,
8:30 a.m.
Panel presentations,
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

EXHIBITS

MARY DUKE BIDDLE ROOM, MICHAEL
AND KAREN STONE FAMILY GALLERY, &
JOSIAH CHARLES TRENT HISTORY OF
MEDICINE ROOM
FEBRUARY 28, 2019 – JUNE 15, 2019
Five Hundred Years of Women’s Work:
The Lisa Unger Baskin Collection
Guided exhibit tours offered every Friday,
March 8 – June 14, at 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.

JERRY AND BRUCE CHAPPELL FAMILY
GALLERY
FEBRUARY 8, 2019 – JULY 14, 2019
Black Students Matter: Taking Over Allen
in ’69

PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY
NOVEMBER 2, 2018 – FEBRUARY 17,
2019
Propitious Wind and Rain: Photographs
from Kunshan by Tom Rankin

FEBRUARY 23, 2019 – JUNE 2, 2019
To Survive on this Shore: Photographs
and Interviews with Transgender and
Gender Nonconforming Older Adults by
Jess T. Dugan and Vanessa Fabbre

For information about these events and
exhibits, please call 919-660-5822 or
visit our website at
library.duke.edu/rubenstein/news

The Rubenstein Library welcomes
your support for collections,
services, and programs. Your
gifts play an important role
in expanding our holdings,
preserving historic documents
and artifacts, and promoting
intellectual inquiry at
Duke. For information on
giving, contact Tom Hadzor,
Associate University Librarian
for Development for Duke
University Libraries, at
919-660-5940 or
t.hadzor@duke.edu.
Exhibition Catalogue Available

The full-color exhibition catalogue for *Five Hundred Years of Women's Work: The Lisa Unger Baskin Collection* is now on sale at Oak Knoll Books. Visit oakknoll.com for details.

By bringing together materials from across the centuries, Baskin reveals what has been hidden—that women have long pursued a startling range of careers and vocations and that through their work they have supported themselves, their families, and the causes they believed in.