



**Annual Report , 2015–2016**

**DUKE UNIVERSITY**  
**LIBRARIES**

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## Annual Reflections

“The librarians at Lilly are absolutely phenomenal.”

“A lot of excellent resources I haven’t even tapped yet. When I have, they have been exceptional.”

“I love the Music Library! It makes my research possible, and it supports my teaching.”

“I’m going to miss Duke’s libraries A LOT when I leave, however nerdy it sounds.”

Those are just a few comments from the thousands of Duke students who participated in a campus-wide library user survey we conducted earlier this year. We wanted to know how they view our services, spaces, and collections, and how satisfied they are with their overall library experience.

The short version: very satisfied, if we do say so ourselves.

The survey underscored a number of important trends. For instance, there’s no such thing as too many group study rooms, printers, or electrical outlets. There will always be demand for more of those. But one of the other conspicuous themes was the top-notch quality of our staff. Duke students appreciate and rely on their librarians.

And they’re not alone. Libraries are not just measured by what we have for people, but by what we do for people. To be sure, we have incredible collections and inspiring facilities. But what sets Duke apart as a university is its unusually collaborative culture. People work together here. As our new strategic plan puts it, “Our libraries partner in research,” actively seeking ways to collaborate and expand our involvement throughout the university.

You’ll see plenty of evidence of such partnerships in this year’s report. But it’s worth calling attention to a few ways we’re working with students and faculty across campus in ways you might not have expected.

For example, in partnership with the Graduate School and the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies, we are participating in a university-wide initiative to expand career opportunities for graduate students in the humanities, supporting skills training for both academic and non-academic job paths.

In partnership with the Bass Connections Program, we provide core support for interdisciplinary and team-based teaching and learning at Duke, contributing space for project teams to meet in The Edge, as well as staff to support their work addressing real-world societal issues.

In partnership with the Provost’s Office, we created four new positions dedicated to the task of helping faculty manage their research data. Not only are more funding agencies requiring researchers to provide long-term data management plans, but they are increasingly calling for sponsored research data to be open and accessible. With our deep expertise in managing and archiving scholarly work, no one is better suited to train faculty on how to organize their research data and prepare it for long-term storage in a repository, so that it remains available for others to use in the future.

In the broader context of higher education, we recently joined BorrowDirect, a resource-sharing partnership with a dozen top universities, including Harvard, Yale,



Columbia, Princeton, and others. When our Blue Devils need something we don’t have, they can draw from a combined library collection of over 70 million books and resources beyond Duke—for free.

Partnerships like these emphasize the cross-cutting nature of our work. The Libraries can demonstrate connections to every part of the academic enterprise, because we work with people across the entire institution—and beyond.

None of this would be possible without our gifted, knowledgeable, and actively engaged staff, who make such a positive impression on the students and faculty they work with.

And for the record, we miss our students a lot when they leave, too. There’s nothing nerdy about that at all.

  
Deborah Jakubs

Rita DiGiallonardo Holloway  
University Librarian and  
Vice Provost for Library Affairs



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## By the Numbers

### Resources

Total print volumes: **7,246,733**

Manuscripts and archives: **57,186 linear feet**

e-Books: **2,013,456**

e-Journals: **220,750**

### Services & Staff

Books and other items checked out: **248,068**

Loans to other libraries: **33,400**

Loans from other libraries: **27,791**

Hours open per week: **149** (out of 168)

Research consultations: **11,587**

Full-time staff: **255**



### Space

Main West Campus library complex (Perkins, Bostock, and Rubenstein Libraries, plus the von der Heyden Pavilion): **485,114 square feet**

East Campus libraries (Lilly and Music): **47,813 square feet**

Library Service Center: **52,000 square feet**

Combined total campus library space: **584,927 square feet** (excluding professional school libraries)

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### Fine Print

Figures in this report refer only to libraries in the Duke University Libraries system (Perkins, Bostock, Rubenstein, Lilly, Music,

the Library Service Center, and Pearse Memorial Library at the Duke Marine Lab) and do not include the separately administered professional school libraries:

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## Just FYI

Pages printed by Duke students on library printers this year: **6,279,129**

Copies of the complete works of Shakespeare that equals: **1,774.5**

Of the 12 most heavily used printers across Duke, number located in the library: **10**

Visits to library website: **3,634,805**

Gigabytes of born-digital material added to Rubenstein Library collections: **1,751**

Individuals worldwide who signed up for a Duke MOOC: **3.8 million**

Conservation treatments to library collections: **13,122**

Average years of service of library staff: **13**

Visitors to library exhibits in the Mary Duke Biddle Room: **9,609**

Undergraduate and graduate students who participated in a campus-wide library user survey: **3,476**

Percentage of respondents who said they were unsatisfied with Duke's libraries in any way: **Less than 1**



the Divinity School Library, Ford Library at the Fuqua School of Business, Goodson Library at the Law School, and the Medical Center Library.

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## 2015–2016 Milestones



### Renovated Rubenstein Draws Crowds

The renovated David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library opened at the end of August 2015. The coordinated move of collections, staff, and services into the building required considerable effort, but those efforts have been paying off. Since opening, the Rubenstein Library has seen a record-breaking number of visits to its reading room (3,593), more than any previous year. More than half of those researchers were Duke students. Students and faculty also attended 240 instruction sessions, another all-time record. And library staff mounted twenty separate exhibits in the renovated and expanded exhibition galleries, drawing thousands of visitors throughout the year.

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### New Combined Service Desk

In January 2016, a new Library Service Desk opened in Perkins Library, combining circulation and research support services in one location. Working with the architectural firm Shepley Bulfinch, the Libraries reconfigured the existing area to provide a larger and more visible service desk, dedicated library consultation space, as well as a new shelving and processing area. The move has already seen new efficiencies in staffing and improvements in service to patrons.



### Digitizing North Carolina Folk Music

The Libraries received a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources to digitize a large collection of North Carolina folk music that has never been widely heard. The collection includes some 1,367 songs recorded in the 1920s and 1930s on wax cylinders and aluminum discs. The recordings were made in the field by folklorist, professor of English, and Duke administrator Frank C. Brown (1870–1943), who traveled across North Carolina collecting folk songs, sayings, stories, and other folklore between 1912 and his death in 1943. Digitization began in the summer of 2016, and the recordings should be processed and made freely available to the public online in 2018.

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### New Digitized Collections, Plus New Look

Every year, the Libraries digitize thousands of historical documents, images, audio, and video, converting them to new formats that will outlast the originals. This year, we were excited to unveil a collection of audio, video, and manuscripts that document more than 2,500 sermons at Duke Chapel from the 1940s to early 2000s. Visitors to our website can now watch, listen to, and read sermons given at the Chapel by an



array of preachers, including Duke Divinity faculty and notable female and African American preachers. Many of the recordings contain full worship services complete with music by the Chapel's choir and four pipe organs. The Chapel recordings are also the first audio-visual collection to be published in the new Duke Digital Repository interface, which offers a more streamlined and user-friendly way to browse our digitized collections.

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## New Graduate Research Commons

In April, the Libraries opened a new graduate research commons in Perkins Library to provide graduate students with a dedicated quiet study area. Registered students have exclusive access to the Commons and its adjacent support room featuring an e-print station, scanner, and desktop computer. In addition, each graduate student has use of a lockable mobile storage unit in which to securely store their belongings while in the Commons. The Commons will help ensure that graduate students have access to quiet study spaces conveniently near the resources they need.



## Preserving Radio Haiti

In 2015, the Rubenstein Library received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support *Voices of Change: Preserving and Presenting Radio Haiti*. This two-year project will preserve and make widely available the audio and written archives of Radio Haiti Inter, Haiti's voice of democracy from the late 1960s until its closure in 2003. The Radio Haiti Archive, housed within the Rubenstein Library's Human Rights Archive, will be an invaluable resource for scholars, educators, and members of the public interested in twentieth-century Haitian politics, society, and culture. When it is completely digitized and processed, the Libraries will give digital copies of the entire Radio Haiti Archive to Haiti's Bibliothèque Nationale, the Archives Nationales, the Fondasyon Konesans ak Libète, and other cultural and educational institutions.

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## Duke History Revisited

The University Archives launched a six-week summer program named Duke History Revisited, offering undergraduates the opportunity to conduct intensive research into unexplored topics or under-represented populations in Duke history. Each participating student received a stipend. Funding was provided through the Mellon-funded Humanities Writ Large program with additional funds from the Dean of Arts and Sciences. Through independent research and twice-weekly meetings, the students identified a topic, explored resources in the University Archives, conducted interviews, and investigated other primary and secondary sources. Students explored a wide range of topics, including the history of Asian American students at Duke, the founding of several Latino student organizations in the mid-1990s, the now defunct Duke abortion fund started in the 1970s, and the experiences of first-generation college students.

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## Financials

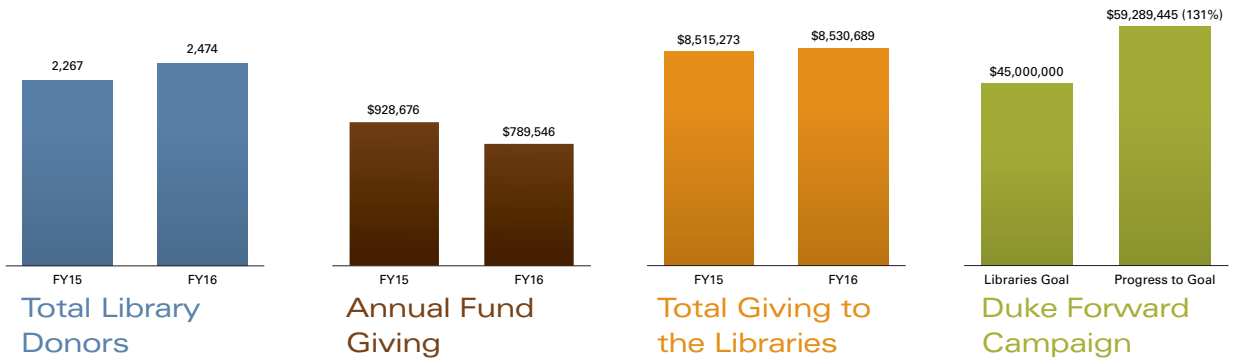
### Financial Highlights

Total Operating Budget: **\$34,541,573**

Library Material Expenditures: **\$16,776,663**

Salaries and Wages: **\$14,260,132**

Average expenditure per student (undergraduate and graduate): **\$2,777**



### Selected New Grants

**E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation: \$2 million** to support the acquisition of the Lisa Unger Baskin Collection.

**The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation: \$1,165,000** to support the further development of an open-source integrated library system.

**National Endowment for the Humanities: \$200,000** to preserve and make widely available the audio and written archives of Radio Haiti Inter, Haiti's voice of democracy from the late 1960s to its closure in 2003.

**Council on Library and Information Resources: \$74,595** to digitize 1,367 songs recorded in the 1920s and 1930s on wax cylinders and aluminum discs by folklorist, professor of English, and Duke University administrator Frank Clyde Brown (1870–1943).



Margaret Bryan (left), author of *A Compendious System of Astronomy* (1799), one of many landmark works by women scientists in the Lisa Unger Baskin Collection, acquired by the Rubenstein Library in 2015.

*On the cover:* One of twenty-eight stone shields that adorn the facade of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library. The open book and quill is a traditional symbol of knowledge and scholarship.