IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR!

Since July 1, 1995, when the “Year of the Library” began, donations of cash and pledges to the library have totalled more than $4,000,000. The most recent major gift, a $1,000,000 pledge by members of the Lauinger family, includes $800,000 to endow the Lauinger Family Preservation Fund, which will support the library’s general preservation needs, as well as $200,000 to set up the Lauinger Family Endowment Fund, whose purpose is to foster Catholic values through selected library acquisitions. Preservation of the collections is also the focus of a recent $75,000 bequest from Charles and Dorothy Quest which establishes an endowment fund to support preservation of the library’s collections of fine prints and other graphic arts.

These gifts augment the more than $3,000,000 in cash and pledges and approximately $500,000 in gifts in kind the library took in during the “Year of the Library.” The largest single gift was received only this June, a partial distribution of $1,500,000 from the estate of Arnold M. Rosenthal (SFS ’59), who left a similar amount to the School of Foreign Service. A second major distribution from the Rosenthal estate is expected during the current fiscal year, thus creating in the end an endowment fund of some $3,000,000 dedicated to the support of special non-budgetary library needs.

(continues on page 6)
This summer, as part of the new student orientation program, 46 members of Georgetown’s faculty and staff took the time to get together with small groups of incoming students, meeting the students themselves and showing a bit of what they find interesting and enjoyable about their work at the university.

Not too surprisingly, almost all the participants asked those who would meet with them to do some preparatory work, and about two-thirds recommended reading specific books. Associates at a loss for “what to read next” might consider this thumbnail view of what a cross-section of members of the Georgetown academic community finds useful to propose as reading to newcomers to the university.

- Abbot, E. A. Flatland (Edward J. Finn, Physics)
- Anderson, Sherry and Patricia Hopkins. The Feminine Face of God: the Unfolding of the Sacred in Women (Karin Ryding, Arabic)
- Atwood, Margaret. The Handmaid’s Tale (Penny Rue, Associate Dean of Students)
- Bateson, Mary Catherine. Composing a Life (Caroline Burnett, Nursing)
- Birkerts, Sven. The Gutenberg Elegies: The Fate of Reading in an Electronic Age (Carol Dover, French)
- Cather, Willa. Death Comes for the Archbishop (Edward M. Quinn, Assistant University Counsel)
- Chaisson, Eric. The Life Era (George L. Farre, Physics)
- Chateaubriand, F.-R. Atala (Dorothy Betz, French)
- Dostoevsky, Feodor. The Brothers Karamazov (Olga Meerson, Russian)
- Dubois, W. E. B. The Souls of Black Folk (Leona Fisher, English)
- Fugard, Athol. “My Children, My Africa!” (Leo J. O’Donovan, S.J., University President)
- Kerouac, Jack. On the Road (James Donahue, Dean of Students)
- L’Engle, Madeleine. A Ring of Endless Night (Bruce Epperly, Campus Ministry)
- Lewis, Michael. Liar’s Poker (Elaine Romaneli, Business)
- Lightman, Alan. Einstein’s Dreams (Kathy Olesko, History/SFS)
- Malory, Thomas. Morte Darthur (Deborah Everhart, Internet Development/ Medieval Studies)
- Ondaatje, Michael. Coming through Slaughter (William K. McHenry, Business)
- Orenstein, Peggy. School Girls: Young Women, Self-Esteem, and the Confidence Gap (Margaret Stetz, English/Women’s Studies)
- Payer, Lynn. Medicine and Culture (Fathali M. Moghaddam, Psychology)
- Pinker, Steven. The Language Instinct: How the Mind Creates Language (John Staczeck, Linguistics)
- Prejean, Helen, C.S.J. Dead Man Walking (Susanne Kord, German)
- Rothstein, Edward. Emblems of Mind (Joseph Serene, Physics)
- Spiegelman, Art. Maus-A Survivor’s Tale (Peter C. Pfeiffer, German)
- Stoppard, Tom. Arcadia (Joseph E. Earley, Chemistry)
- Strachey, Lytton. Eminent Victorians (Jeffrey von Arx, S.J., History)
- Wiesel, Elie. Night (Roger L. Slakey, English)
"UNKNOWN AND UNDESCRIBED"

A favorite literary genre among humanists of the early sixteenth century was the exchange of letters presenting various sides of a subject under dispute. Frequently quite brief, these pamphlets were ephemeral at best. In 1515 one Johann Singriener, a young printer who had opened his shop in Vienna only the year before, was commissioned to print an exchange between “Rudolf Agricola Junior” (probably in reality a local Franciscan) and Joachim Vadianus (1484-1551), Swiss poet laureate and budding geographer.

Sandwiched between courtly urbanities and matters of little moment, the meat of the 31 pages of Habes lector: hoc libello is devoted to Vadianus’ elucidation of the geographical problems raised by the recent discovery of the continent of America. For later collectors the importance of the pamphlet lies in Vadianus’ use of the word “America,” a coinage dating only to 1507 and in 1515 still not widely accepted by scholars.

Vadianus’ letter to Agricola was well known, published by him repeatedly in his annotated editions of the work of the Roman geographer Pomponius Mela from 1518 onwards. What geographer—and collector—Henry Harrisse termed “unknown and undiscovered” when he obtained his copy in 1873 was the first publication of a text that was very influential indeed in determining how America would be named.

Harrisse’s copy of Habes lector came to Georgetown as one of the numerous rare Americana donated by someone, recorded only as “a friend,” whose anonymity has remained secure for nearly a hundred years. No longer “unknown and undiscovered” but a known target for collectors, Habes lector is still not a common book: search turned up only a copy in the British Library and five others in the United States. Vadianus and Harrisse are both nearly forgotten, the identities of Agricola and Georgetown’s “friend” are in doubt, but the name Vadianus popularized lives on.

During his student days at Columbia and up until he entered the Trappists in 1941 Thomas Merton displayed a considerable natural skill at cartooning; some of his work appeared in the Columbia Jester and other, more risqué, cartoons appeared in a New York trade magazine.

With funds provided by the Library Associates, the library has been fortunate to acquire a trove of 46 Merton originals, adding an entirely different dimension to its growing collections of Merton’s books and letters and to our collective appreciation of this remarkable author, thinker, and artist.
**WELCOME, NEW ASSOCIATES**

Elizabeth Armstrong  
Kenneth Baithotts  
Robert Bremner  
Nicole Bryant  
Jill Chopyak  
Anne Davis  
Thomas Doyle  
Maria Farnon  
Laura Garces  
S. Noel Gray  
Katrina Greene  
Minako Ishikawa  
Kelly Martin Islinger  
Joseph Kennedy  
Keri-Ann Lack  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Leggett  
Gerhard Lukowsky  
Barbara Marhoefer  
Elizabeth McNeil  
John Merriam  
Maria Moux  
Adrianne Nagy  
Kathleen Nebeker  
Peter Orszag  
Bruce Ragsdale  
Sheri Reizner  
Thomas Stauffer  
Donald Stewry  
Beatrice Stroup  
Christopher Szara  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Szwec  
Sundeep Taxali  
William Watts  
John White  
Roger White  
Johannah Williams  
Jolie Wood

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**BMW ELECTRONIC READING ROOM OPENS**

To commemorate a $10 million gift from auto manufacturer BMW, the Center for German and European Studies has provided the funds necessary for the library to develop an electronic reserves system, the BMW Electronic Reading Room. This virtual reading room permits students and faculty to access course reserve materials 24 hours a day, 7 days a week using the new World Wide Web (WWW) interface to GEORGE, the online catalog. The BMW Electronic Reading Room materials are accessible in Lauinger Library, or around the campus and from home via the WWW. Four public workstations with laser printers attached are set up across from the Circulation/Reserve Desk on the third floor of Lauinger Library. Two production stations equipped with both scanners and a printer are located in the Access Services Department.

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**SHUSAKO ENDO**

Japanese novelist Shusaku Endo, a convert to Catholicism at age 11, died September 29 at age 73. Born in Tokyo during the terrible earthquake of 1923, he abandoned an early interest in medicine for the study of French literature, and in 1950 he became one of the first Japanese students to be awarded a French government scholarship for study in France. His novels, many of which have been translated into English, include *Silence* (1966), *The Samurai* (1980), *Scandal* (1988), and *Deep River* (1995). A longtime admirer and correspondent of Graham Greene, Endo found it appropriate, given our interest in the English novelist as well as in Endo’s own work, to donate to the library the original handwritten manuscripts of *The Samurai* and *Deep River.*
SPOTLIGHT ON ROSEANNE CASEY

Roseanne McIlvane Casey (G'79) is a steadfast Georgetown alumna who shares her time, talents, and financial gifts to ensure that Lauinger Library is a world-class educational resource. Recently she made a bold statement of perpetual support by creating a legacy gift for the library.

Georgetown is a Casey family tradition. Roseanne earned her master's degree in liberal studies in 1979. Francis L. Casey, Jr., her late husband, was a 1950 College graduate and 1952 Law Center graduate and served as national president of the Alumni Association. Two of her sons are Law Center graduates: Francis L. Casey III (C'76, L'80), an attorney with Morgan, Lewis, and Bockius, and Thomas D. Casey (L'85). In fact, Roseanne's brothers, Rev. Donald W. and Robert E. McIlvane, also attended Georgetown, and her niece, Nancy McIlvane Del Genio (F'82), is national treasurer of the Alumni Association and sits on the Board of Governors.

Roseanne recalls fondly the hours she spent in the Murray Reading Room of Lauinger during her graduate studies. She first learned about the Library Advisory Council from the late William J. Curtin (C'53, L'56, L'57), a friend and former chair of Georgetown's Board of Directors. Having accepted a position on the Library Advisory Council, Roseanne subsequently has helped enlist hundreds of new members in the Library Associates and increase financial donations to Lauinger Library.

Philanthropy was important to Roseanne and Frank, and she wanted her own estate plans to fund organizations that had touched their lives, including Lauinger, Hoyas Unlimited, and the Graduate School. Roseanne's attorney suggested a testamentary contribution to Georgetown's pooled income fund. Such a gift would allow her to combine her contribution to Georgetown with similar gifts from others, and provide her designee with an assured lifetime income, before ultimately benefiting the Library.

Roseanne Casey sees the Jesuit Ignatian tradition of education, with its interdisciplinary approach to teaching, as the defining element in Georgetown's character. Her pooled income gift benefits Lauinger Library, which is at the heart of the Georgetown community.

For information on Georgetown's pooled income fund, or other gift planning opportunities, contact Jeff Comfort at (202)687-3697 or (800)347-8067.
Associates who would like to have a copy of the new third edition of Special Collections at Georgetown, the 144-page descriptive guide to the library’s collections of rare books, manuscripts, and graphic arts, may obtain one free of charge by contacting Melanie Savage at (202) 687-7446, or any of the staff of Special Collections at (202) 687-7444. Copies are also available in the library for visiting Associates and friends.

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

We thank all those friends of the library who have donated books, manuscripts, or other library materials since June, 1996. Among them are:

- America (New York)
  Additional archival files of the Jesuit magazine

- Laurie L. England
  Fine and commercial paper ephemera

- Monika K. Hellwig
  Papers and files relating to her teaching and research at Georgetown

- Laura Joost
  Additional personal papers of Dr. Nicholas Joost

- Russell Shaw
  Additional personal papers for his collection

- Beatrice H. Stroup
  Papers of Leonard Z. Laurence concerning the history of the Panama Canal

- John C. Sylvester (et al.)
  Personal papers of writer Harry Sylvester

- Colette Ware
  Personal papers of Monsignor Patrick J. O’Mahony

IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR! (continued from page 1)

The pledged gift by the Lauinger family, together with the Quest and Rosenthal bequests, provides the library with the means to undertake serious activity in preserving the collections as well as to respond flexibly to either crisis or opportunity, whether in terms of unexpectedly necessary equipment or the possibility of acquiring a unique collection. As the library moves into its third century of service to the university and to the world of scholarship at large, these funds will provide some of the ongoing support needed for the library to fulfill its mission.

To all those Associates and others who made the “Year of the Library” such a success, and who are continuing to support the library’s collections and services, we give our heartfelt thanks. 🙏