CLASSIC TEXTS AND FINE PRINTING

GREEK AND ROMAN CLASSICS IN EARLY AND FINELY-PRINTED
editions were eagerly sought by collectors in England and Europe during the
early nineteenth century. But as the classical languages have gradually lost their
place in the curriculum, so too have their texts lost favor in the eyes of collectors.
The recent donation by Mrs. Katherine Bowie of the small but distinguished
collection formed by her first husband, Philip Schulte, besides materially
strengthening Georgetown's holdings, offers us a first-hand insight into the
collecting taste of earlier times. Mrs. Bowie's gift was made specifically because of
the anniversaries we are celebrating in the "Year of the Library," and we are
indeed grateful.

Mr. Schulte's lifelong interest in the classics led to the formation of a considerable library. But
in addition to the working staples of modern scholarly editions he gathered more than a hundred
volumes which would have excited Thomas Frognall Dibdin, the English collector and bibliographer,
whose Introduction to the Knowledge of Rare and Valuable Editions of the Greek and Latin Classics is
present (fourth edition, 1827) in an obviously well-used copy.

At the heart of the collection are Baskerville's beautifully printed, if not always textually reliable,
editions of Catullus, Horace, Juvenal, Lucretius, Sallust, Terence (two copies), and Virgil. These are
supplemented by his editions of Ariosto and the Greek New Testament, the latter his only attempt
at printing in that language. The Foulis press of Glasgow is represented by its magnificent folio
edition of Homer's Iliad and Odyssey (four volumes, 1756-58). The presses of Elzevier and Aldus are represented too, the latter by the first
edition of the letters of Pliny the Younger (1508). The works of Apuleius are present in
a richly illustrated Venetian edition printed in 1510.

The list of noteworthy volumes could be extended, but one point is abundantly
clear: the twin debts that the library owes to the discernment of the collector and to
the generosity of the donor.
Science faculty and students were pleased on March 18 to be welcomed to the newly-renovated Blommer Science Library in the Reiss Building, and especially so since staff and services had been “exiled” to Lauinger for some ten weeks. The renovation incorporated carpeting, new shelving, and new paint and lights, all of which have dramatically improved on the rather fusty appearance of the library. New shelving has improved access to the library’s collection of books and journals, and new data wiring allows users to connect their laptop computers directly to the library’s local area network. 

Science Librarian Margaret O’Rourke and Assistant University Librarian for Access and Public Services Mark Jacobs were instrumental in planning the renovation and seeing it through to a successful conclusion.

**TWO NEW CAPITAL GIFTS**

The library and the university are truly grateful, as Georgetown’s new capital campaign gets under way, for two important capital gifts in this “Year of the Library.”

Bernard and Nancy Picchi (F’71, xC’71), whose generosity has been invaluable in allowing Lauinger Library to make collections and services available to students and faculty, have pledged a campaign gift of $250,000 in support of the Picchi Multimedia Room and the Electronic Information Resource Center, to be known as the Picchi Electronic Information Resource Center. This facility enables library users to gain access to the Internet and the World Wide Web, and to use high-end computers to create or to play back multimedia productions for classroom or research use. This new gift will permit the library to set up two additional multimedia workstations and will provide income in perpetuity for maintaining and upgrading equipment.

Another member of the Library Advisory Council, David Walsh (C’58), has made a campaign pledge of $150,000, most of which will go to enhance the Chimes Library Resource Endowment Fund which Mr. Walsh established in 1990. This year, 1996, is the fiftieth anniversary of the Chimes, who as a group have enthusiastically supported Mr. Walsh’s efforts. As Chimes alumni come from all schools of the university, giving to the library allows them to support students and faculty across disciplinary boundaries. Income from the Chimes Fund permits the library to purchase exceptional materials, in any field of study, that it would not otherwise have been able to acquire.
Jan Philip Roothaan (1785-1852) was General of the Society of Jesus from 1829 until his death. Born in Amsterdam, he travelled to Dunaburg to enter the Jesuit novitiate in 1804 and was ordained at Polotsk in 1812. In 1820 he moved to Switzerland, and four years later was named the first rector of the new Jesuit college in Turin. He was instrumental in revising the *Ratio studiorum* in 1832, and his own scholarship bore fruit in a new edition of St. Ignatius' *Exercitia spiritualia*. During his tenure as general the number of Jesuits worldwide virtually doubled, reaching a total of 5,000 men.

Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Clemens C. J. Roothaan, a descendant of the general’s brother, the library now can offer to researchers nearly 140 autograph letters written by Jan Philip Roothaan to his father, Mathias, his brother, Albert, and his nephew, Theodoor. Spanning the period from his departure from Amsterdam in 1804 to 1846, the letters, half of which are in Dutch and half in French, provide considerable insight into the close relationship between Roothaan and his family, members of which he rarely saw in person after 1821.

The character of the letters, and of the man, is suggested by the following translated quotation from a letter written in French to his brother Albert, a shipowner, in February, 1844:

As to the welfare of your ship Eugenie—I thank the Savior as do you. But, my dear brother, do you know that your captain is extremely hostile to Catholics, and especially to priests? They are very badly treated on his ship, it is said. In general, it is said, he feeds very badly the ship’s passengers, who nonetheless pay very well. Look into this, my dear. For I fear that the actions of her captain will bring unhappiness on your Eugenie. I pray always for travelers—I have always so many of my religious at sea!

The Roothaan family correspondence adds greatly to the more than 150 letters from him to various Jesuit correspondents in the University Archives and the Maryland Province Archives, and the author of a new biography (there have been several already) will do well to spend some time at Georgetown.
WINTER ASSOCIATES EVENTS

WASHINGTON
On November 28th, over 100 Associates gathered in the Intercultural Center Auditorium to hear Christopher Buckley talk on “Sympathy for the Devils: or, How I Almost Learned to Love the Sin Lobbyists,” sharing insights on the research he conducted in writing his recent best seller. Buckley is the author of Steaming to Bamboola, The White House Mess, Campion (with James MacGuire), Wet Work, and the recent Thank You for Smoking.

NEW YORK
On December 5th, Associates met at the Grolier Club in New York to hear a lecture entitled The Booker Book: the Culture of Prize Novels delivered by Alvaro F.V. Ribeiro, S.J., Assistant Professor of English at Georgetown, where he teaches courses on contemporary prize novels, among other things.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
On December 12th, more than 200 Associates and staff celebrated the holiday season in historic Riggs Library. This annual holiday party was in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Chimes, the oldest singing group at Georgetown. In 1990, the Chimes Endowment Fund was created to support the library’s general acquisitions. A special guest, William J. Byron, S.J., spoke briefly on the importance of supporting the library.

WASHINGTON
On February 22nd, Associates were treated to a reception and private viewing of “Stuart Sutcliffe: Paintings and Works on Paper” at the Govinda Gallery in Georgetown. Sutcliffe was the legendary bass guitarist with the original Beatles. Director of the gallery Christopher Murray (C’69) is an Associate.

THE “YEAR OF THE LIBRARY” GALA
On March 14th, the Leavey Center Ballroom was the site of the gala, the pinnacle of our year-long celebration of library anniversaries. Unusual warm weather embellished this pre-Saint Patrick’s Day combination of readings, Irish music, live and silent auctions, and a cocktail buffet. Featured readings were given by current and former Georgetown faculty members Judith Farr; Anthony Hecht, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet; and George O’Brien, prize-winning Irish writer. Paul Anthony served as master of ceremonies and auctioneer. Gala proceeds will be used to enhance the library’s preservation fund and to purchase two multimedia computers with touch screens for the kiosk in the lobby of Lauinger Library, providing an informative and easy to use guide to the library and its resources.
TWO NEW DIPLOMATIC COLLECTIONS

In 1919 Georgetown did something dramatic and daring: it established the first American school of foreign service. Ever since, the university has excelled in teaching and research in diplomacy and international affairs. Lauinger Library reflects this in its collecting, and recently two fascinating collections have been added: the Byington Papers, offering a glimpse at our diplomatic service in the nineteenth century, and the Alfaro Family Papers, documenting Panamanian diplomacy in the twentieth.

A. Homer Byington (1826-1910) was the stuff of legends. A printer, he became owner of his hometown Norwalk Gazette, which he edited for 60 years. He made his name as a Civil War correspondent for the New York Tribune; he was the first to report to Lincoln Meade’s victory at Gettysburg. Lincoln and Byington knew each other well, as an amusing manuscript account by Byington shows:

...Mr. [Horace] Greeley had placed me in charge of the Tribune News Bureau. One of the pleasant duties of this position was to visit the President every evening, carry him all the outside items of news he would likely be interested in, & in return get from him all news he was willing to impart. One of the President’s facetious remarks used to be -- “Now we’ve swapped news, let us swap some lies,” meaning of course humorous stories.

After the war Byington remained active in journalism and Republican politics, and because of the latter President McKinley named him consul at Naples in 1897, a position he held for eight years. Besides documenting his career, the archive includes a good portion of the diplomatic papers of his grandson, Homer M. Byington I, who served in the foreign service for 47 years and acted as chief of personnel in the State Department in the early 1930s. The library is indebted to Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Hinkle for this generous gift.

The library’s distinguished Panamanian holdings have been enhanced by a donation from Mrs. H. Cabell Maddux, Jr. Her father was the noted legal authority and diplomat Dr. Ricardo Joaquín Alfaro (1882-1971), who entered Panama’s foreign service in 1905. From 1922 to 1930 and again from 1933 to 1936 Alfaro was envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from Panama to the United States. In 1931 and 1932 he served as President of Panama. Later he was involved in the creation of the United Nations and served as a judge on the International Court of Justice.

The collection includes varied materials for the study of Alfaro’s life: articles, manuscripts, photographs, and especially an extensive series of letters to Mrs. Maddux discussing his various activities. For cryptographers, one gripping document is a typescript guide to the telegraphic code used by the Panamanian government. Alfaro is considered one of Panama’s greatest sons, and it is hoped that the collection will generate new scholarly interest in this celebrated statesman.

IN MEMORIAM

We note with sadness the deaths in recent months of five Library Associates, generous donors, and friends:

Ray S. Cline
William J. Curtin
Margaret Donahue
Frederick C. LeComte
Robert A. Ricks
A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

We thank all those friends of the library who have donated books, manuscripts, or other library materials since December, 1995. Among them are:

- **John L. Brown**  
  Additional personal papers, including letters by Josephine Baker, Carson McCullers, and Alice B. Toklas

- **Estate of Mrs. F. Sadlier Dinger**  
  *The Civitates orbis terrarum of Braun and Hogenberg, books I and II (1576)*

- **Wolfram U. Drewes**  
  Additional fine prints by the donor's father, Werner Drewes

- **Laurie L. England**  
  Fine and commercial paper ephemera

- **Murray Lebwohl**  
  A watercolor by Anthony Gross and a print by Misch Kohn

- **Edith S. Mayfield**  
  Literary first editions and other works by A. C. Swinburne, Witter Bynner, and many others

- **John Rackham**  
  A collection of twentieth century fine prints by American and European artists

- **Mrs. Robert M. Weidenhammer**  
  Papers of the Dutch seaman, journalist, and scholar Pieter H. G. Verhoog

NEW SPECIAL COLLECTIONS CATALOG COMING

The third edition of *Special Collections at Georgetown*, a printed guide to holdings in rare books, manuscripts, graphic arts, and the University Archives, will be published this summer. The 144-page illustrated catalog will incorporate information on the very substantial acquisitions made since the second edition appeared in 1989, as well as on previous holdings. Copies will be made available to Library Associates. Publication of the new edition has been made possible by a generous donation by Library Advisory Council member Frederic J. Fuller, Jr. (C’39).