In This Issue

2 from the UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN
3 STUDENT-CURATED EXHIBITION
3 EXHIBITIONS
4-5 LIBRARY ASSOCIATES EVENTS
7 IAQs
8 PHILODEMIC

Left: Detail from a popular print drawn by S. Eytinge, Jr.: Mr Pickwick’s Reception: Sam Weller introduces Mr. Pickwick the Leading Characters in Mr. Dickens’s Novels, 1870. Right, Watercolor portrait of Charles Dickens by Ethel Webling (British painter active 1880-1903). From the Ziegler Dickens Collection, Special Collections Research Center.

continued on page 4
Those who live in the North and South Temperate Zones are fortunate to experience changes of seasons. There is so much to commend in each; even when we must recover from a difficult season, we know that a new one will quickly follow. And there’s always the hope that next year will be better.

I have been considering seasons as a metaphor for the changes occurring right now in libraries, technology, and higher education in general. Some of these seasons of change are ephemeral, while others portend more hazardous weather. We won’t know for many seasons which changes will be sustained; perhaps this sustains my optimism that 21st century libraries will remain vital.

Libraries are paradoxically steady and agile, unifying and breakaway; we attempt to meet at least some of our users’ needs all of the time, and all of their needs some of the time. Whether for onsite or online constituencies, we expand the capabilities of the academy and offer creative and original productivity possibilities for even the newest scholar. We are seasoned professionals, yet become invigorated neophytes when we adapt technology to our offerings, or partner with others in the academy to invent new transformative practices. We accept the current but preserve the past: our intent is to provide access to the world’s best and most important information—for seasons to come.

Despite all of this, we do hear questions about libraries’ relevance in the 21st century and how, or even whether, libraries “add value” to teaching, learning and research. I take personal pride in asserting that Georgetown University does not underestimate the value of its libraries. To the contrary—we know that the academy flourishes because of our libraries. The “blended learning” model of traditional on-campus, virtual and distance learning environments will thrive only when our resources and services thrive as well. We understand disruptive changes, but have the foresight to value those changes in hindsight. We are, in short, invaluable.

Change is inevitable, though change can be difficult to accept. We adapt our resources to different environments and different seasons, but we will never adapt to anything less than excellence. Libraries, in short, will “add value” no matter what the season.—AGK
Special Collections Research Center student intern Marvin J. Aguilar (C’12) received a 2012 Misty Dailey Award for Excellence in the Arts this spring. His paper, The Boyer Family: Mother-Daughter, Innovative Printmakers, was awarded the Honorable Mention for a research paper in art history. The current exhibition on the Boyers in Lauinger Library’s Fairchild Gallery is curated by Aguilar, and an account of his research, in his own words, follows here. He has been a student intern in the Special Collections Research Center, working with the University Art Curator, since 2009.

My research into the Boyer family art collection at Georgetown began about a year ago when I was awarded the Dailey Family Travel Fellowship for Research in Art History. With this grant I traveled to various cities and visited museum collections and university archives to better understand the Boyer family history. I spent time at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the Carnegie Museum of Art and Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA and the Archives of American Art in Washington, DC. I was also invited to meet various individuals who grew up with the Boyers in Kansas City, Missouri. However, my time with Helen King Boyer herself proved to be the most enlightening. At age 92, she spoke intimately and joyously about her life growing up during the Depression and World War II.

Last fall, I spent a number of hours looking through the entire Boyer family collection in the Special Collections Research Center. The in-depth print collection is augmented by 8.50 linear feet of the family’s correspondence, dating from ca. 1823-1940. After weeks of preselecting prints, reading correspondence, and organizing my research, I began pulling it all together in my art history senior thesis, advised by Elizabeth Prelinger, Keyser Family Professor in Art History. With the help of art collection curator LuLen Walker and assistant curator Christen Runge, my research became the focus of a spring exhibition in Lauinger’s Fairchild Gallery. My primary objective was to examine the Boyer women as a mother-daughter printmaking team, and analyze their works and techniques using non-traditional aluminum plates as their matrix.

The mother-daughter printmakers Louise Miller Boyer (1890 – 1976) and Helen King Boyer (b. 1919) began their careers in 1930s industrial Pittsburgh. The women were first introduced to printmaking through a close relationship that husband/father Ernest W. Boyer had developed with key figures at the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) through his connections as a professional architect.

continued on page 6
DICKENS, CONTINUED

and prisons to dreams, nightmares and the paranormal. She said she likes to say that Our Mutual Friend is her favorite Dickens novel, and Great Expectations is her favorite novel. By recent count she has read Great Expectations 32 times.

Georgetown Professors John Pfordresher and David Gewanter and Professor Catherine Payling presented a scene interpretation from David Copperfield, which can be seen or revisited in its entirety in the video of the program at www.library.georgetown.edu/digital/lecture-hall. Professor Pfordresher noted in introducing their reading that in Dickens’ time, many who were illiterate and poor would pool their pennies to buy the shilling “parts” as they were issued, and then find someone literate to read it aloud to the group, often at the local pub.

Professor Pfordresher and Rare Books Curator and Preservation Coordinator Karen O’Connell concluded the program with an overview of the exhibition they co-curated, including some thoughts on the mind of the collector in connection with the Ziegler Dickens Collection, held by the Library’s Special Collections Research Center. The collection is the product of more than two decades of dedicated searching out of Dickensiana by the private collector, Arnold U. Ziegler. The exhibition was on display in Lauinger Library’s Gunlocke Room through June 21.

SINGULAR PLURALITIES

The Library Associates, in conjunction with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, brought Namita Gokhale to Georgetown in March to talk about Singular Pluralities: Examining Indian Literatures. Gokhale is a writer, festival director, publisher and literary consultant and member-secretary of Indian Literature Abroad.

Gokhale talked about the multicultural, multilingual environment of the South Asian literary world and in particular about the Jaipur Literature Festival, now in its fifth year. She is a founder and director of the festival, which encompasses readings, talks, debates, music, children’s workshops and interactive activities. The festival is a testament to the vibrancy and resurgency of South Asian literature; in it languages seep into other languages, languages and dialects are kept alive and reinvigorated through literature and oral literatures from so-called “illiterate” cultures are preserved. Marginalized voices are heard alongside popular voices; it is a rare multicultural experiment that is succeeding.

Gokhale invited the audience to participate in the next festival in January 2013, and signed copies of her own books after the lecture.

EVELYN WAUGH AND THE QUESTION OF INHERITANCE

In March, the Library Associates enjoyed a presentation by Alexander Waugh on Evelyn Waugh and the Question of Inheritance. Waugh is the grandson of author Evelyn Waugh, son of journalist Auberon Waugh and a noted writer, producer, publisher and presenter in his own right.

Waugh is currently editing the 42 volumes of the Complete Works of Evelyn Waugh for Oxford University Press as part of a lifelong interest in his famous grandfather, who died when he was 2½ years old, and his family’s relationships. Waugh has no personal recollections of his grandfather, but he talked about getting to know him.
through his written works, which he described as surprising and beautiful, full of extraordinary juxtaposition of ideas, with never a word wasted.

In the course of his research and through an odd turn of events, Waugh had the opportunity to visit Teresa Youngman, for whom Evelyn Waugh had suffered an unrequited love. “Baby” Youngman, as she was widely known at the time, was one of the “Bright Young People” famous in London society in the 1920s and had a great many ardent admirers. Evelyn Waugh had written her many letters which had never been recovered, and it was assumed that they had been destroyed. However, Alexander Waugh was pleased to tell the audience, Ms. Youngman had, in fact, kept them and allowed him to leave her home with photocopies of them all. Waugh read excerpts from these letters, revealing a love-struck Evelyn who nevertheless maintained his characteristic bluntness and acerbity. The letters have not been published and it was a treat to discover a new, slightly tenderer side of such a famous author.

The Library’s Special Collections Research Center, one of whose collection strengths is Anglo-Catholic writers, holds dozens of first, early and significant editions of Evelyn Waugh’s works, as well as over 500 of his letters. In honor of Waugh’s visit, GU Library Board member the Honorable Selwa (Lucky) Roosevelt donated to the Library four books by Auberon Waugh, including two that had been inscribed to her by the author.

**A Nation of Immigrants**

The Ellen Catherine Gstalder (C’98) Memorial Lecture in April featured Susan F. Martin, Herzberg Professor of International Migration, speaking on *A Nation of Immigrants*. Professor Martin is the director of the Institute for the Study of International Migration in Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service.

Professor Martin framed her talk around the three early models of immigration in this country: the Virginia model, which was based on labor migration and welcomed immigrants for their labor but not as integrated members of the society; the Massachusetts model, which welcomed victims of religious persecution but only if their beliefs aligned with the prevailing orthodoxy; and the Pennsylvania model, which emphasized religious tolerance, freedom and participation in the political framework. She used these models as a starting point to discuss policies in providing for security, well-being, family reunification, refugee considerations and other issues that will continue to challenge future migration.

The Ellen Catherine Gstalder (C’98) Memorial Lecture Fund at the Library supports an annual lecture on significant social issues in America. The lecture honors the memory of Ellen Gstalder, C’98 and was established by her parents Herbert W. (C’65) and Barbara E. Gstalder in 2007.
Although the Boyer women approached their themes differently, what united them was their innovative choice of materials, specifically the printmaking plate itself. Working on anodized aluminum plates supplied by Alcoa, Louise Boyer found this bonded surface could run through the press multiple times without affecting the design, unlike traditional zinc or copper plates. Its super-hard surface also facilitated the intricate, detail work in which the Boyers excelled. Aluminum was also lightweight, and the process did not require the use of acid, part of the traditional etching process on copper plates.

Louise Miller Boyer received her training in illustration and design from the Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University). She always saw Pittsburgh as the quintessential city: a hybrid of industry, suburbia, and culture. Her love for her home city is seen in the series of prints that bear its name. Helen Boyer’s work was more introspective, drawn from childhood and experiences living through the Depression and World War II. A sickly child bedridden during her youth, Helen spent her early years in a lonely room with dance magazines, crafts, and dolls for entertainment. Her father would read her classic literature by Dickens, Thackeray, and Shakespeare. Helen Boyer later commented that she always felt a clear plate glass window separated her from the world.

The exhibition focuses on the Boyers’ technical innovations as well as their psychological connection to Pittsburgh. Although they moved to various cities throughout their lives, the Boyer women looked at their years in Pittsburgh as a major turning point from amateur printers to innovative printmakers. The essence of the industrially-urbanized Pittsburgh, the cultural impact of Alcoa, and the events that took place during the mid-20th century live on in the Boyer women’s aluminum plates.

The Boyer Collection’s approximately 400 prints, drawings, and other works of art, including drypoint aluminum plates, were donated to Georgetown in the 1980s by Helen King Boyer in memory of her parents. The curator at the time, Joseph A. Haller, S.J., was also from Pittsburgh, and when he began collecting prints for the University in the mid-1970s, he discovered the Boyer family and their art works through local connections. The Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History also holds a large collection of Boyer prints and aluminum plates.

The research process and my internship in Special Collections have provided invaluable insights into the world of printmaking, researching from original sources (not just objects, but also the artist who made the work) and how to curate an exhibition. I hope this experience will lead to a career in curatorial practice.--MA
The program from the dedication ceremony for the John Carroll Statue (which took place 100 years ago on May 4, 1912) shows that President Taft was scheduled to speak. However, newspaper accounts of the event indicate that he did not. Do we know why?

President Taft was to deliver a speech at the Statue ceremony but cancelled a few days before the event. The University Archives has a copy of a letter sent by University President Alphonsus J. Donlon, S.J., to Taft’s Secretary on May 1, 1912, expressing disappointment at Taft’s action:

The celebration has been given publicity in every Catholic paper in the United States and in all the dailies connected with the Associated Presses. The chief men of the country, influenced by the promised presence of President Taft, have consented to make addresses. The celebration itself and the desire to see and hear President Taft are attracting very many of our 6000 graduates and their friends from every state.

The letter does not allude to the reasons for the cancellation. However, it was likely related to Taft’s travel to Augusta, Georgia, to speak at a memorial service on May 2, 1912. The service was for his chief military aide, Major Archibald de Grafenreid Willingham Butt. In the early spring of 1912, Butt had been urged by Taft to rest for health reasons. As a result, he took a six-week vacation to Europe, during which he delivered a personal message from Taft to Pope Pius X. He booked passage home on the ill-fated Titanic and perished on board.

Who was the first veteran to enroll at Georgetown?

The first student to serve in the military and then come to Georgetown to study appears to have been George Peter. Peter, the son of Robert Peter who was the first mayor of Georgetown, enrolled here on April 16, 1792, at the age of thirteen. He left the College in 1793 and subsequently ran away from home in 1794 to join Maryland troops engaged in putting down the Whiskey Rebellion in Pennsylvania. When his alarmed parents discovered where he had gone, they sent a message to George Washington, and young George was dispatched home. He returned to his studies here in May 1796 and became a lieutenant in the U.S. Infantry in 1799, receiving his commission at Mount Vernon from Washington himself. Elected to Congress in 1815, he served alongside William Gaston, our first student, who attended Georgetown from 1791 to 1793 and had been Peter’s classmate.

Is it true that a bill was once introduced into Congress to extend P Street, Volta Place, Q Street, and Dent Place westward through campus to Foxhall Road?

Yes. In March 1908, after Representative Everis Anson Hayes of California purchased a tract of land that bordered the western edge of campus, such a bill was introduced so that he could have easy access to his property. The University engaged an attorney to fight the action and also approached President Theodore Roosevelt for assistance. Roosevelt would not explicitly commit to veto the bill if it passed Congress, although he did offer that he was opposed to bills from which Congressmen would personally benefit. Declining at least five offers to purchase the land bought by Hayes, the University waged an ultimately successful campaign against the road extensions, spearheaded by the University President David H. Buel, S.J. Fr. Buel argued both that a beautiful and necessary part of the Georgetown campus would be destroyed by creating the through streets and, perhaps more compellingly, that the construction work would be extremely costly, given the topography of the land. --LC
The Georgetown University Library Associates are a group of Georgetown alumni, parents and friends dedicated to helping the Library shape the creation of knowledge, conserve culture for posterity and transform learning and research. To learn more, contact us at 202-687-7446 or visit us at: library.georgetown.edu/associates

Did you miss one of our Library Associates events? You can find full-length videos online in the Digital Georgetown section of our website. Go to www.library.georgetown.edu/digitalgeorgetown.

Philodemic

The earliest proceedings of the Philodemic Society are now online. The conservation and digitization of the Philodemic Society’s two earliest “amanuensis books” has been made possible through the generosity of an anonymous Georgetown alumni. They are now readily accessible online in the Philodemic Society Archives on DigitalGeorgetown: http://repository.library.georgetown.edu/handle/10822/555430.

Founded in 1830, the Philodemic Society of Georgetown College was the first debate society formed on campus and is the oldest student group in existence at Georgetown University. The Society, whose objective is described as cultivating eloquence devoted to Liberty, holds weekly debates on a wide range of topics. The University Archives houses the records of the Philodemic Society dating back to its founding, including their constitution and by-laws, minute books, and debate announcements and summaries.