In This Issue

2 from the UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

3 UPCOMING EVENTS

4-5 EVENTS

6 IAQs

7 BENEFACTORS’ WALL

7 NEW ONLINE RESOURCES FOR ALUMNI

8 GRAND STAND

The Forgotten War

This September the Library welcomed Archivist of the United States David Ferriero and Chief of Research at the National Archives Trevor Plante to campus, to talk about The War of 1812: A Forgotten War Remembered Through National Archives Records.

Our own Georgetown University Archivist, Lynn Conway, introduced the program with a brief talk about the state of the University during the war. Using documents and images from the Archives, she described a modest-sized institution grappling with large issues. The student body had dropped to 16 because of competition from other local institutions as well as the severe approach to discipline, unpalatable to parents, of the University’s seventh president. Finances were also shaky, and Georgetown’s very existence was being questioned by many. Things turned around under Fr. Giovanni Grassi, Georgetown’s eighth president and a gifted administrator. He enhanced and advertised Georgetown’s reputation, and lauded its location. As internal conditions at the College improved, however, external events were applying pressure as the British began conducting raids all along the Chesapeake. Grassi assured parents that Georgetown remained a safe place to send continued on page 4
Global Georgetown

Georgetown University’s presence, service and teaching to the world is continually expanding. For many years the Office of International Programs has sent students to study abroad. We maintain our own campuses at the Georgetown School of Foreign Service in Doha, Qatar; the Villa Le Balze in Fiesole, Italy, which in 2013 celebrates its 100th anniversary; and the McGhee Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies in Alanya, Turkey. In addition, through the Division of Overseas Studies Georgetown offers opportunities in 160 programs around the world.

The Offices of the President and Provost at Georgetown have created numerous academic and entrepreneurial relationships in China, India, Latin and South America and elsewhere. Our University is partnering with three other Jesuit institutions to propose a Liberal Arts College in Hong Kong, and we are exploring possibilities for a Jesuit University in East Africa. Our faculty are well-known in every corner of the globe, and our university’s reputation as one of the finest innovators in global higher education grows.

As higher education transforms itself from a traditional living/learning/location-based enterprise to a globally-accessible/internet-based one, we expect Georgetown’s reach to continue to expand. Growth and outreach are part of the Jesuit mission to live and work “at the frontiers,” which may be taken both as geographical mandate and as metaphor for intellectual innovation. Georgetown has joined EdX to further our mission of teaching globally (see www.georgetown.edu/news/edx-georgetown.html).

Perhaps you expect nothing less of our University and our faculty. But perhaps you didn’t know that our librarians reach out globally in their work as well. We are proud of the work that our excellent staff perform at home and abroad, and here offer a few examples of recent contributions to global scholarship. Our Bibliographer for Latin
American Studies and Iberian Languages, Michael Scott, participated in the SALALM (Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials) in Trinidad and Tobago this June, and attended the Guadalajara Book Fair in November. Our Humanities and Rare Book Cataloger, Louis Reith, was recently elected to the eight-member Executive Board of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences. He attended the Twelfth International Congress for Martin Luther Research in Finland in August where he presented a paper entitled “Institutio Principes Christiani – Lutheran Court Education in Mid Sixteenth-Century Württemberg.” Social Sciences Bibliographer Bill Olsen went to Africa for more field research this spring, and presented a paper at the African Studies Association conference in Philadelphia in November.

Additionally, our interim Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources and Services, Sem Sutter, received an unusual honor this fall. Thirty years ago Sem completed a Ph.D. dissertation in history at the University of Chicago, *Friedrichstadt an der Eider: an Early Experience in Religious Toleration, 1621-1727*. He described how an entrepreneurial German duke enlisted Remonstrants and Mennonites from the Netherlands as town cofounders and extended toleration to Jesuit Catholics in order to gain a commercial treaty with Spain that would make his city a rival to Amsterdam and Hamburg. In addition to native Lutherans, they were eventually joined by Jews, Quakers, and Polish Unitarians; members of seven confessions lived together in a small town and worked out a *modus vivendi* for political and social order.

To Sem’s surprise, members of the town’s historical society contacted him last year seeking permission to translate his work into German and publish it. 18 months of work with his translator, Heike Norden, culminated in October with a trip to the town for a book event held in the former synagogue, now a “cultural and memorial site.” A capacity crowd attended. The Mayor thanked him and his collaborator for “giving” the town its early history, and invited him to inscribe his name in the Golden Book, a German honor equivalent to receiving the keys to a city.

The Library participates in the global conversation. Our resources are increasingly available online to our scholars regardless of where in the world they find themselves. The expertise of our subject librarians is only a mouse click away and not limited by geography. Now that Georgetown expands its global reach, including its collaboration with EdX, so, too, will the Library!

--AGK

---

**Upcoming Events**

**January 29**

The Annual Casey-McIlvane Memorial Lecture

*The Early Jesuits and the Arts*

John O’Malley, S.J., Georgetown Professor of Theology

Georgetown University

**February 20**

Poetry Event

Jane Shore, poet and George Washington University Professor

David Gewanter, poet and Georgetown University Professor

Georgetown University

**April 4**

*The Ellen Catherine Gstalder (C’98) Memorial Lecture with*

Bob Herbert, former op-ed columnist for *The New York Times* and Demos Distinguished Senior Fellow

Georgetown University

---

GLOBAL, continued
The Forgotten War, continued

their children. In August 1814 the British advanced on Washington, and on August 24 broke through the city’s defenses. Students and faculty who had stayed on campus could watch the buildings of Washington burning from their vantage point on the campus hilltop. Most fled at that point, but President Grassi remained. The British left on August 26, classes resumed in September 1814, and Georgetown remained unharmed throughout the war.

David Ferriero talked about the war from the national perspective. He emphasized the National Archives’ role as the nation’s recordkeeper and told the story of the war through images of documents found in the Archives. Historians, he said, cite four reasons for the war: trade restrictions, impressment of American sailors, problems with Canada, and anti-British warhawks within the U.S. government. Documents shown included President Madison’s War Message to Congress on June 1, 1812, the House Declaration of War, and several documents related to “Old Ironsides,” the U.S.S. Constitution. The National Archives holds the deck logs of the Constitution, and recently the captain and members of today’s Constitution crew visited the Archives, presenting Ferriero with a piece of the actual deck of the Constitution—taken from a timber that needed to be replaced on the ship (see photo page 1).

Trevor Plante discussed the burning of Washington D.C. and showed related documents including “Value of Property Destroyed, the Report of the Superintendent of Public Buildings, October 29, 1814.” He also showed “after-action reports” from Major George Armistead at Fort McHenry and Andrew Jackson after the Battle of New Orleans. He concluded with pages from the Treaty of Ghent, dated December 24, 1814.

A lively question-and-answer session followed; the entire event can be viewed online at http://www.library.georgetown.edu/digital/lecture-hall. The event was co-sponsored by the Georgetown University Lecture Fund. A companion exhibition, The War of 1812: Manuscripts from Special Collections, is on display in Lauinger Library’s Kerbs Exhibit Area through mid-January.
The Great American Songbook
The Library again co-sponsored, with the Department of Performing Arts, the first of the semester’s Friday Music Series. This year’s concert was *The Great American Songbook* and featuring Steve Ross (C’61), cabaret singer and pianist. After leaving the Hilltop in 1961, Steve rose to fame as a cabaret entertainer at New York’s Algonquin Hotel and Ted Hook’s Backstage. He has spent the ensuing decades singing and playing all over the world, including The Ritz in London, the Crillon in Paris and the Imperial Hotel Tokyo, in addition to festivals in Hong Kong, Perth and Spoleto. He has been a radio series performer/host for both the BBC and NPR.

Steve interspersed stories of such great composers, singers and performers as Irving Berlin, Fred Astaire, Rudy Vallee, Eddie Cantor, the Gershwins and Alan Jay Lerner with renditions of their work, and delighted the audience. A reception in Lauinger Library followed Steve’s performance, with an opportunity to visit the related exhibition in the Leon Robbin Gallery, “Give My Regards To Broadway: Tin Pan Alley in Georgetown’s Special Collections.”

Making Politics Work
The Library presented the inaugural Tanous Family Endowed Lecture this October, featuring political commentator, TV host and author Chris Matthews talking about *Making Politics Work*. Matthews focused on the relationship between Republican President Ronald Reagan and Democratic Speaker Tip O’Neill during the 1980s, the subject of his current book project. Using excerpts from the Reagan diaries and anecdotes from his own experiences working for O’Neill, Matthews demonstrated that these two men, while very different personally and politically, both loved their country and worked past their differences to get things done. While they both relished a good political fight, they also recognized their responsibility to the country and both made compromises to achieve mutually acceptable outcomes. As Matthews put it, Reagan and O’Neill made politics work because they didn’t believe in “kicking the can down the road.”

The entire talk, and the lively Q&A that followed, can be viewed at [http://www.library.georgetown.edu/digital/lecture-hall](http://www.library.georgetown.edu/digital/lecture-hall). The Tanous Family Endowed Lecture Fund was established by Peter J. Tanous (C’60) in honor of Lauinger Library’s 40th anniversary, to support an annual lecture program. The Georgetown University Lecture Fund co-sponsored the event.
Infrequently Asked Questions
from the desk of the University Archivist

Thompson’s Boat Center, which was dedicated in 1960, serves as the home of the Georgetown Crew. Has the University ever owned its own boat house?
Yes, we owned a series of boat houses in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, all of which seem to have met with some misfortune. Crew records in the University Archives include a letter dated February 22, 1877, less than a year after the Georgetown College Boat Club was formed, soliciting money for a boat house which “has just been completed and is now in the possession of the club.” Designed by J. L. Smithmeyer, whose firm designed Healy Hall, this boat house cost $1,100 and stood on the Potomac just west of campus. In February 1881, a flood virtually destroyed it, significantly stalling the momentum of the Club. In the spring of 1901, another boat house, located at the foot of 32nd Street on government property, was purchased from the Columbia Athletic Club. According to the *Georgetown College Journal*, it consisted of three rooms: “the boat room, ball room and locker room. The boat room had ample space for the six eight-oared, five four-oared, one centipede, four out-riggers, two four-oared, and two gunwale boats, together with a fifty-foot ten-oared barge.” Georgetown used this boat house until 1904, when it was razed after adjacent property owners petitioned to have Georgetown vacate the land and the street opened up to the waterfront. In 1905, the University bought a houseboat from the government, measuring 60 by 38 feet, to serve as a boat house; this sank in 1906.

I have seen references to something called the “Blimp,” apparently in Old North, in student writings from the 1920s. What and where was this?
When enrollment rose sharply after World War I, Georgetown found itself in need of extra dormitory space. To meet this need, the attic of Old North, although unheated, was converted from storage space to an open dormitory, with rows of beds along the walls and a center aisle between them. The dorm was quickly nicknamed the “Blimp,” presumably to reflect its long, narrow shape, slanted roof, and few windows. At first, the space was used as a regular dorm. However, it quickly became reserved for students who incurred the wrath of the Prefect of Discipline, Vincent S. McDonough, S.J. (for whom McDonough Arena is named.) Errant students would be “sentenced” to stays of various lengths for infractions such as having a light on after “lights-out,” making too much noise, or returning to campus too late at night. After New North was completed in 1926, Old North was renovated and the “Blimp” was subdivided into rooms.

Is it true that one of our basketball coaches gave boxing lessons to a U.S. President?
Yes, that would be Maurice Joyce, our first basketball coach and a somewhat colorful character. He boxed with President Theodore Roosevelt, who had a lifelong interest in physical fitness. Roosevelt had begun boxing as a boy and continued sparring even when in the White House. Joyce, a former circus performer and future Special Agent for the Department of Justice, came to Georgetown in 1906 as our Physical Instructor. Having arrived in D.C. in 1892 as director and physical instructor for the Carroll Institute, a citywide amateur athletic Coach Maurice Joyce (back row, second from right) with the 1907-1908 basketball team and student officials. From the Georgetown University Archives.
IAQs, continued
from the desk of the University Archivist

club, he is credited with introducing basketball to Washington. He used the game, invented the previous year by Dr. James Naismith in Springfield, Massachusetts, as a conditioning tool. Naismith's rules stipulated that a basketball team consist of nine players, but Joyce began modifying these rules and dropped the number of players per side first to seven and then to five. Joyce brought to Georgetown his enthusiasm for basketball. Tryouts for a varsity basketball squad were held in December 1906 and we played (and defeated) our first varsity opponent, the University of Virginia, on February 9, 1907.

--LC

Benefactors’ Wall

At Lauinger Library’s front entrance is a granite wall in which are carved the names of some of the Library’s most generous benefactors. We are delighted and grateful to welcome a new name to that wall this fall: Barbara Ellis Jones (C’74) has generously given a leadership gift to the Library as part of For Generations to Come: The Campaign for Georgetown. Barb graduated from Georgetown University with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and a minor in Economics in 1974. She served on the Georgetown University Library Board from 2007-2010 and is currently a member of the Georgetown University Board of Regents.

Barb’s extraordinary gift will go to the Library’s Special Collections Research Center, and much more about what her generosity will accomplish for the Center will be described in future issues of this Newsletter. In the meantime, we are pleased to see her name on the wall next to some of the Library’s most dedicated friends—alumni, parents, faculty, and community members who have made so much of our best work possible. Thank you, Barb!

New Online Resources for Alumni

Most of our readers who are Georgetown alumni already know that the Library is able to provide alumni access to many of our online resources through the Library Link for Alumni. All you need is your Georgetown University NetID and password, and if you don’t know them instructions are available on our website to retrieve them.

We are pleased to announce that we have been able to add several more resources, and if you haven’t visited recently please go to library.georgetown.edu/alumni/full-text to explore the possibilities. Added resources are from SAGE Publications, and include:

• CQ (Congressional Quarterly) Press products, including the CQ Press Political Reference Suite, CQ Researcher (12,000-word reports covering the most current and controversial issues of the day with complete summaries, insight into all sides of the issues, bibliographies and more on a weekly basis), and CQ Weekly (political and legislative news, features, trends, forecasts and congressional voting records).

• SAGE Research Methods Online, covering research methods across the social and behavioral sciences.

• Communication Studies Collection, including the full text of 19 journals in the subject area.

• Management & Organizational Studies Collection, peer-reviewed journals covering multiple subjects across the field.

• SAGE Reference Online Encyclopedias A-Z List, multiple encyclopedias on varying subjects in the social sciences.
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/digital/lecture-hall.

Souvenir, likely from the first inauguration of Woodrow Wilson in 1913. The “ticket” is from the scrapbook of Georgetown student William E. Harrington (C’1916). The scrapbook is now held in the Georgetown University Archives.