Decatur
SA Building, Room 3100
3251 Panthersville Road
Decatur, GA

Atlanta
Library North and Library South
100 Decatur Street SE
Atlanta, GA

Alpharetta
AA Building, Room 1230 (Learning Resource Center)
3705 Brookside Parkway
Alpharetta, GA

Newton
2N Building (Student Learning Center), Room 3100
239 Cedar Lane
Covington, Georgia

Dunwoody
Learning Resource Center
2101 Womack Road
Dunwoody, GA

Clarkston
CL Building (Jim Cherry Learning Resource Center)
555 North Indian Creek Drive
Clarkston, GA
This annual report includes information collected between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. We welcome your feedback. Please contact Benoit Sabourin - bsabourin@gsu.edu, Director of Development, University Library.
I am inspired every day as I walk through the library and see hundreds of students hard at work in pursuit of their dreams. Some are nestled into quiet carrels to read and write. Others are using online resources or course materials on our computers. Many gather around tables or in group study rooms to collaborate. The work ethic of our students is simply phenomenal. It is the Library’s responsibility to provide the resources and services these students need to excel. Fortunately, we have a great team of caring, knowledgeable, creative and passionate library staff and faculty across our six library locations who ensure that we fulfill this charge.

I hope you will enjoy browsing our annual report. These highlights from the 2018-2019 academic year just scratch the surface of the excellent work of our team. We have added more technology for checkout and created new workshops at our Perimeter College locations. A new lecture series, Research in the Raw, highlighted work in progress by GSU faculty. Innovative approaches in the delivery of workshops by our data services team led to record attendance. We also created more study space downtown by shifting collections.

The year ahead brings the promise of more exciting developments. This spring, Special Collections & Archives will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Women’s Collection. With the demolition of Kell Hall and Library Plaza complete, we look forward to a new green space and a new entrance to Library North. We will begin planning the next phase of our Library Reimagined renovations, replacing a small parking lot with a dynamic new study space. We will also plan for a major initiative to reduce the cost of course-related learning materials. Finally, we have a great new group of talented, diverse colleagues joining our team. Our accomplishments rely on the support of alumni and friends like you. A gift to the GSU Fund for the Library helps propel these exciting initiatives forward. I hope we can count on your support in the year ahead.

“The year ahead brings the promise of more exciting developments.”

Jeff Steely
Dean of Libraries
By the Numbers

- 1.75 million volumes held
- 2 million full-text downloads
- Over 1 million visits to library.gsu.edu
- 9,600 librarian consultations
- Over 2.5 million visits to our 6 campus libraries
- 576k unique visitors to library.gsu.edu
- 32k streaming video views
- 19,400 interlibrary loans
- 946 thousand downloads from ScholarWorks
- 190 university library events
- 15k attended 839 presentations
- 500k unique users of library research guides
- 27k linear feet of special collections & archives
- Over 195,000 group study room reservations
- 26k unique visitors to the library blog
- 94k items in the digital library
Student Spotlight

The Georgia State University Library is not just a place where students come seeking knowledge - it is also a place where they seek experience. The University Library employs dozens of students each year, who provide front-line customer service, process archival collections, create graphics, support our technology and more. Undergraduate and graduate students who work in the University Library, in addition to earning an income, gain valuable skills for their academic and professional careers. Kristin Smith and George Usmanov are two shining examples of library student employee-scholars.

Kristin, a sophomore English major, is a student assistant in the User Services & Technology Support department. She visited campus the summer before starting classes. During a stop at the library, a conversation with a library staff member led Kristin to ask about student jobs. Kristin has worked at the library ever since.

Kristin splits her time at work between the circulation desk, the technology desk and the CURVE (Collaborative University Research & Visualization Environment) research facility. She says she is “a more productive student” because of what she has learned on the job. “The research methods I have learned during my time here,” Kristin says, “will prove to be immensely useful in my career as an English Literature scholar…. I am grateful to have this hands-on experience”

“The University Library is a better place because of Kristin Smith,” according to Kara Mullen, her department head. “Kristin combines her academic background, vibrant personality and approachability to provide services in the library that enhance student learning and success and enable learning of new knowledge.” Kristin’s support of the library’s mission and vision goes beyond just being a student employee. She is also active as a student member of the Library Board of Advocates.

KRISTIN SMITH
SOPHOMORE
ENGLISH MAJOR

“THE RESEARCH METHODS I HAVE LEARNED DURING MY TIME HERE WILL PROVE TO BE IMMENSELY USEFUL IN MY CAREER AS AN ENGLISH LITERATURE SCHOLAR.”
In the spring of 2019, the Research Data Services team faced a problem – a good problem. Demand for their services, especially support with quantitative data tools, was off the charts. As a partial, quick remedy, the University Library hired George Usmanov, a graduate student in GSU’s Sociology Department, as a graduate research assistant for Dr. Raeda Anderson, the Library’s Quantitative Data Specialist.

George and Raeda co-developed a very successful social network analysis workshop series. George also developed a coding workshop for SPSS (an important quantitative analysis tool). Additionally, he helped plan and execute both a collaborative library faculty research project and a graduate quantitative research training program.

According to Anderson, “His insights as an early career research methodologist have been invaluable to developing programs helpful to graduate students and faculty across all levels of skill and home discipline. George recognizes and values the importance of libraries in the research lifecycle.”

As his skills have developed, George has grown to where he can give insightful one-on-one assistance to faculty and students without the need for oversight. “Working on research projects within the library,” George says, “has more effectively prepared me on how to communicate complex ideas of research to others and informed my own research goals.”

George hones skills that will make him more effective as a professor someday, he is making a difference for others today. “I am excited to come to the library every day,” he says, “knowing that what I am doing is making an impact.”
Every August, the faculty and staff of the University Library gather for a day of celebration, socializing, and professional development. The 2019 Library Employee Development Day included a new feature, Library Employee Recognition Awards. We hope you will join us in celebrating the accomplishments of these winners!

**Best Collaborative Project**
Community Senior Center Tech Help Program (Amy Stalker, Christopher Moffat, Karen Doster-Greenleaf, Admira Milinkovich, and Benoit Sabourin)

**Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion**
Chuck Armbrust-Kohler

**Team Project**
Library Staff Committee (Taylor Brooks, Michelle Lee, Michelle Asci)

**Innovation**
Kara Mullen

**Patron Service**
Taylor Brooks

**Leadership**
Laura Carscaddon

**Emerging Leader**
Michelle Lee

**Instructor of the Year**
Dr. Raeda Anderson

**Extra Mile**
Admira Milinkovic

**Collegiality**
La Loria Konata

**Team Builder**
Michelle Lee

Photo by Darrell Boner
Over the past year, Dean Steely and Benoit Sabourin, Director of Development, traveled to numerous Alumni Association and other GSU events on a “Kell Hall Farewell Tour.” The tour included a traveling exhibit that told the history of Kell Hall. The dean and director also highlighted the Library’s online exhibit, “Kell Hall: Capturing the Legacy” (library.gsu.edu/kell), featuring a virtual tour of this most unusual building. Each stop on the tour provided an opportunity to introduce alumni and friends to the Library’s master plan for the downtown library, Library Reimagined (library.gsu.edu/reimagined).

The demolition of Kell Hall and Library Plaza is complete and soon a new greenway will connect Peachtree Center Ave. and Collins St. The first step in the Library Reimagined process will be a new entrance for Library North, with work scheduled to begin late spring 2020. The new entrance, designed by Collins Cooper Carusi Architects and funded by the Georgia Legislature, will provide study space for approximately 50 students. Stairs and elevators will move students from the new greenway up to the first floor of Library North. Construction should be complete by the end of 2020.

Planning for the next phase is also underway. The Library plans to convert a small parking lot under Library North (“C Lot”) into a new student study space, complete with café, group study rooms and a large, flexible study space. Student fees will cover most, but not all, of the cost of this phase.

The Library is seeking philanthropic support to complete the project. Your contribution to the Library Future Fund will help us make this a great space for our students. Interested in naming opportunities? Contact Benoit Sabourin (libdev@gsu.edu) to learn more.
The University Library relies on generous donors for many of our programs and services. Whether through an annual gift to a fund such as the GSU Fund for the University Library or an endowment designated for specific programmatic support, we are grateful to these vital partners in our mission. One such partner in the development and support of the Women’s Collections is Margaret Curtis.

Margaret Curtis was born in Marianna, Florida, in 1935. She earned a bachelor’s degree in education from Florida State University and taught elementary school in Florida and Ohio. In 1973, she moved to Georgia and became active in the women’s movement, applying her Christian faith in her activism for women’s rights.

During the 1970s and 1980s, Curtis functioned as a writer, lobbyist and fundraiser for a number of organizations. Curtis traveled and spoke extensively to religious groups, at community meetings and at organizational conferences throughout Georgia, advocating for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. She was chair of the Speaker’s Bureau for ERA Georgia, Inc. (1979-1980), was president of People of Faith for the ERA in Georgia (1980-1982) and has served on the board of directors for the Council on Battered Women (1975, 1986-88). Curtis has had more than 500 letters to editors published in newspapers. She continues to write, addressing the ERA and other women’s issues. Her cartoons and creative writings, some of which have also been published, reflect her activism and interest in these issues. Curtis resides in Vinings, Georgia.

Manuscript materials (notes, correspondence, news clippings, printed materials and publications) in her collection document not only her involvement with these organizations, but her attendance at major conferences concerning women and the ERA, as well as her involvement in politics and religion.

In March 2019, Margaret and her husband, Daniel B. Curtis, established the Curtis Family Endowment for the Women’s Collections. Inspired by her example, Margaret’s son, David B. Curtis, also established an endowment, the Vicki Baker Curtis Endowment for the Women’s Collections, named in honor of his spouse, a GSU alumna. These two endowments provide the Women’s Collections’ archivist wide latitude for use of the funds to acquire and process additional important documents that tell the story of the women’s movement in Georgia and beyond.

In 2020, the University Library will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Women’s Collections. The annual Spring Event this April will feature a panel discussion on the history of the Equal Rights Amendment. Watch the Library’s website for details.

Please consider a gift to help us celebrate 25 years of capturing and preserving the story of the women’s movement in Atlanta and the Southeast.
Supporting Scholarship

The Library is pleased to support graduate students at Georgia State University. The Library Research Award helps graduate students achieve their goals with targeted financial awards through the Library Dissertation Travel Award grant program and sponsorship of the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition.

Library Dissertation Travel Award

The Library Dissertation Travel Award provides funding for doctoral students who need to travel to libraries, archives and/or museums as part of their research. The Library awards up to $500 for domestic travel and up to $1,000 for international travel. This year’s recipients were Shana Latimer, Lashonda Slaughter-Wilson and David St. John.

Shana Latimer, Ph.D. Candidate in English, traveled to Texas to gather research for her dissertation, Disambiguating Dystopia: Readjusting the Critical Lens on Twentieth-Century Dystopian Literature. As a key step in understanding Cormac McCarthy’s The Road and Kazuo Ishiguro’s Never Let Me Go, Latimer visited the McCarthy archive at Texas State University and the Ishiguro archive at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research gave her deeper understanding of both authors, as she studied the authors’ comments, first drafts and editorial notes.

Lashonda Slaughter-Wilson, History Ph.D. candidate, used her award to visit the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. Slaughter-Wilson’s dissertation focuses on the book Daemonologie, a guide on hunting witches written by King James VI of Scotland in the late 1500s. During her four days in the Folger Shakespeare Library’s reading room, Slaughter-Wilson studied the original Daemonologie manuscript, including marginalia attributed to James. She is interested in how his beliefs on witchcraft influenced Scottish and English society.

David St. John, a Ph.D. Candidate in English, travelled to Hong Kong. St. John’s research focuses on the concept of traffic, including automobile traffic, drug trafficking and human trafficking. He hopes to propose a new way of looking at the environment through the lens of traffic. St. John’s time at the University of Hong Kong, the city library, and the Po Leung Kuk Museum led directly to a paper he presented in early July. “My conference paper,” St. John said, “laid the groundwork for a chapter of my dissertation.”

Lashonda Slaughter-Wilson

David St. John

Shana Latimer
The Three Minute Thesis originated at the University of Queensland (Australia). Hundreds of universities around the world now sponsor 3MT competitions. The University Library is proud to co-sponsor the 3MT competition at GSU. Graduate students present their research in three minutes or less, in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience, using just one slide. The Library Research Award provides prize money for top presentations by both master’s and doctoral students.

This year’s first prize winner at the doctoral level, psychology Ph.D. student Mary Fernandes, also won first place in the 2019 Psych Science-in-3 Competition at the American Psychological Association’s annual conference.

Your gift to the Library Research Award will allow us to continue to support the innovative research of Georgia State students.
The Georgia State University Library wants to be seen as an academic resource for the entire Greater Atlanta community. To that end, the Library engages with area residents throughout the year at various events. Here are a few examples from the past year:

**Decatur Book Festival**
Every year, thousands of people visit Decatur, GA, a vibrant suburb of Atlanta, for one of the largest independent book festivals in the country. Since 2016, the Georgia State University Library has hosted a booth at the festival. In 2018, the Library highlighted upcoming events, GSU faculty publications, and our special collections. A popular activity among attendees was having a picture taken in front of a green screen and inserted into an historic scene from the archives.

**Clarkston Culture Fest**
The GSU Library has participated in the Clarkston Culture Fest for two years. The annual festival aims to highlight the best of what Clarkston has to offer, including the foods, music, languages and cultures of this extraordinarily diverse neighborhood. The Library’s booth provides information on library resources available to the community.

**High School Tours**
Area high school classes visit GSU’s libraries for tours, instruction, and access to resources. These visits provide a taste of college life and exposure to the people and collections of the University Library.

**Senior Living Facility Tech Help**
Every other Friday, library faculty and staff representing three GSU campuses visit the Somerby Senior Living Facility. Our team provides technology support, assisting residents with email, smart phones, computers and other technology issues.
Online Resources

Swank Digital Campus Top 150 Films Collection
Many faculty incorporate popular cinema into their curricula. To meet the increasing demand for affordable access to films, the University Library collaborated with the College of the Arts to secure student tech fee funding to license the “Top 150 Films” collection from Swank Digital Campus, a streaming service for academic libraries. This collection provides access to a diverse selection of classic and recent films, including such well-known titles “North by Northwest,” “Saving Private Ryan,” “West Side Story,” “An Inconvenient Truth” and “La La Land.”

Infobase
The University Library added subscriptions to a number of new databases from Infobase. These resources are particularly relevant for first and second year students. Some of the databases added include: Issues and Controversies, which provides a window into crucial issues of today, with well-crafted, in-depth articles presenting opposing viewpoints; Polling the Nations, presenting the results of 18,000 surveys from around the world; and Ferguson’s Career Guidance, a great tool for helping students explore career options.

Special Collections & Archives

Metro Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless (Y2019-02) – 52 cubic feet + born digital materials
The records of the Metro Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless documents nearly 30 years of the organization’s history and operations. The Task Force was founded in 1981 to serve as a central coordinating agency for services to individuals experiencing homelessness. Until the organization ceased operations in 2019, it not only provided direct services but also engaged in advocacy around issues such as affordable housing and access to employment. The collection includes policy documents, audit reports, city contracts, real estate records and more. Preserving the records of the Task Force will facilitate research on social issues and disparities in Atlanta, increase understanding of the financial and political complexities affecting access to housing and bring attention to the experiences of those personally affected.

Georgia Perimeter College Public Relations, Marketing, & Communication/Development Offices (G2019 -31, 33, 35, 37) 27.5 cubic feet
In 2019, the University Archives received two significant additions to the Georgia Perimeter College (GPC) Archives. The original acquisition, received shortly
after consolidation of GPC with GSU, consisted largely of publications the Clarkston librarians had collected to document the College during its 40th anniversary year. Since then, the archives have received records produced by a variety of GPC offices. This year the archive received major acquisitions of materials from GPC’s central public relations, marketing and development offices. These records, consisting of photographs, artifacts, office records, publications and various other media, provide new insights into the ways the college attracted and supported students, fostered diversity and interacted with its communities.

**UNITE HERE/Workers United Southern Region (L2019-13) – 118 cubic feet**

UNITE HERE was formed in a 2004 merger of the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees (UNITE) and the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union (HERE). After a bitter internal dispute in 2009, the majority of the UNITE side of the union, along with some of the disgruntled HERE locals, left UNITE HERE to form a new union, Workers United. The Southern Region records consist of contracts, negotiations, grievances, videotapes of meetings, photographs, charters, periodicals and t-shirts. The materials detail the Southern Region’s representation of members who worked for companies including Levi Strauss, Disney, Goya, K-Mart, Sodexho and Bondo. The collection also documents the UNITE HERE / Workers United split.

**Andrew Young School of Policy Studies: Dean’s Office Records (G2019-38, 40, 42) 13.5 cubic feet**

The collection consists primarily of publications and photographs from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies that document the work of the school from the 1990s to the 2010s. In light of the School’s 25th anniversary in 2020, these collections add significantly to University Archives holdings and illustrate the school’s leadership on a variety of issues of local, national and international importance.

Additional Photo Credits

pp 6-7
Kristin Smith, George Usmanov

p 8
Shana Lattimer, David St. John, Lashonda Slaughter-Wilson

pp 14-15
From top left to bottom right.
Some of the items obtained with the acquisition of the Metro Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless records.
Some of the items obtained with the acquisition of the Georgia Perimeter College Public Relations, Marketing, & Communication/ Development Offices records.
Some of the items obtained with the acquisition of the UNITE HERE/Workers United Southern Region records.
Some of the items obtained with the acquisition of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies: Dean’s Office records.

*Photos by Shaumond Scott*