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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1996/97

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
VIRGINIA TECH

</div>

I. INTRODUCTION

Both units of this department focused on improving user access to unique materials or publications otherwise only available in paper. This lead not only to increased interaction with external library users, but also to better access for the library's walk-in clients. Special Collections accessioned, processed, and prepared guides to collections; participated in collection development for the rare book, reference, and manuscript/archival collections; staffed the Reference Desk and answered questions from telephone, fax, mail, and e-mail; created and maintained, edited and made significant changes to the guides to special collections and contributed to new digital image resources, moving the prototype ImageBase to a production-scale resource for worldwide, networked access; created exhibitions of unique library resources to inform and attract users; and preserved the rare book, manuscript and archival collections for the future.

The Scholarly Communications Project's growing national reputation led to new scholarly online publications and formalization of experimental procedures such as digitizing and identifying images and archiving electronic theses and dissertations. ETD processing was scaled up, resulting in approximately 200 new titles being network-accessible in 1996/97. Eight new journal editors contact SCP during this reporting period, resulting in the online publication of four new journals, with at least two nearly ready for publication.

II. SPECIAL PROJECTS

November 21, 1996 kicked-off the fundraising campaign for University Libraries and Special Collections staff created both online and German Club exhibitions. Both the online exhibitions that were presented on large display screens at the German Club during the pre-dinner mixer and the traditional, glass-enclosed memorabilia, manuscript letters, and publications attracted very positive comments from all in attendance. Exhibitions, around campus and online enhance the interest donors have in the library as well as serve as a reminder to researchers of the wealth of unique resources available at Virginia Tech.

SCP installed the OpenText LiveLink search engine in January 1997, providing faster and more accurate results than did the previous freeWAIS (Internet shareware) search programs. Throughout this fiscal year, the continually growing collection of ETDs was reindexed to enhance user access and to serve as a model for other libraries and universities considering participation in the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations. Subsequently, SCP provided search access to its electronic journals. 1997/98 will see all of Web-accessible special collections materials similarly accessible. This world of unique resources will be open to scholars and researchers, both local and remote.

Scholarly Communications and Special Collections staff cooperated with PhotoGraphic Services to advance the prototyped "digital image database" and scale it up to a production-oriented ImageBase with nearly 3000 fully identified images. The time lag between digitizing and identification is minimal with a cadre of student workers. All digital images are described using the near-standard Dublin Core metadata tags. Without VIVA support, digitizing would have been severely limited, but now the library can provide access to images including those from the Norfolk & Western (2250), local history (475), Earl Palmer's Appalachia (150), and VPI Women (75).

III. ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Special Collections attempted to return the Reading Room to its former attractive and pleasant state, but much is still to be done. The major step taken was to move over 600 cu. ft. of manuscripts, archives, books, and artifacts to the offsite storage facility. In 1997/98 we hope to further enhance the Reading Room atmosphere and to improve the behind-the-scenes working environment for staff and students.

NEW NETWORKED PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

WILLA
Society for Philosophy and Technology
Journal of Contemporary Neurology

Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics and Econometrics
13 continuing electronic journal titles

ETDs available grew to nearly 200

access enhanced through purchase of OpenText LiveLink, Dec. 1996
improved ETD submission and workflow processing

INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPERS

An Nahar, began almost daily online publication in June 1997
The European, began weekly online publication in April 1997
Le Monde, began daily online publication in March 1997 (plus supplements)

ImageBase expanded with VIVA support to 3000 identified digital images

improved definitions of fields
shared online archiving of TIFFS (archival quality images) with Computing Center

INTERNET HIGHLIGHTS FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS' NEWLY ORGANIZED COLLECTIONS

VPI presidents T. Marshall Hahn and Joseph Dupuy Eggleston, and vice president William E. Lavery (circa 125 cu. ft.); Carpenter transcripts; Leviseur; Greeley; watercolors of mold; Montgomery County; the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, Montgomery County branch, records; the Harry Temple photograph collection; the Charles Worley architectural drawings; three additional women architects as part of the International Archive of Women in Architecture; distinguished faculty papers, slides from Media Services; and Faculty Senate papers.

EXHIBITIONS (in NEWMAN LIBRARY unless otherwise noted)

1996	summer	Women at Virginia Tech in Squires
	Sept.-March	Class Reunions in Johnston Student Center lounge
	Nov.	Helene Koller-Buchwieser and the IAWA
	Nov. 21	Civil War Love Letters, Heraldry Collection, Women in the Civil War online and at German Club for University Libraries' fund-raiser
	Dec.-Jan.	History of Football at Virginia Tech in Squires
1997	Jan.-Feb.	rare ornithology books with hand colored prints
	Jan.-Feb.	Col. Temple's contributions to the history of the Corps and heraldry
	Jan.-Feb.	"Life on Mars," Eric Wiedegreen (Assoc. Prof., HIDR), Wallace http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/images/sfpicts/lifemars.gif
	March 2	at Explore Park, Roanoke, VA
	March	Recent additions to the Civil War collection
	March-Aug.	125th Celebration (Squires)
	April	Photos from the Eleanor Stover McEver collection at Solitude
	April	Early Student Life at Virginia Tech in the Johnston Student Center
	April-May	National Endangered Plants and Wild Beauty at Museum of Natural History
	May	Virginia Academy of Science materials at the CEC
	June	125 Years of University History (in Special Collections and Squires)

EXHIBITIONS ONLINE

"Black Women at Virginia Tech Oral History Project." Collaboration with the Women's Center.
http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/bwhp/bwhproj.htm

"A Timeline of Black History at Virginia Tech"
publicized with a cover article in the *Roanoke Times*
http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/arc/bltime/intro.htm

"Campus Unrest at Virginia Tech-1970"
from President Hahn's papers and the Special Collections Photograph Collection.
http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/arc/unrest/intro.htm

EXHIBITIONS ONLINE (continued)

"Pre-World War II Thanksgiving at V. P. I."
Electronic publication of Col. Harry Temple's
http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/arc/vpitg/vpitg1.htm

"A Gallery of Bloomsday Cards"
http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/specgen/blooms/bloom.htm

"Tremendous Poetry by Ms. Strager's Fourth Grade Class"
http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/bburg/kipps/strager.htm

"V.P.I. in the Spanish American War"
http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/arc/spanamer/spamwar1.htm

VIRTUAL TOURS OF THE SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT FOR CAMPUS VISITORS

Marian Bate, principal librarian, University of New South Wales, June 2, 1997
Oklahoma Higher Education Administrators and Faculty, April 23, 1997
Group Study Exchange Team from Korea, March 4, 1997
Landmark Communication Executives, December 16, 1996
Paul Torgersen, October 4, 1996
NASA Langley Library Staff, July 31, 1996
Longwood College Faculty

IV. DEPARTMENTAL PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

McMillan, Gail, "Electronic Theses and Dissertations: Merging Perspectives," invited chapter in *Electronic Resources: Selection and Bibliographic Control,* Pattie, Ling-yuh W. (Miko), and Bonnie Jean Cox, eds. New York: Haworth, 1997 (105-125). [Simultaneously published in *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly,* 22(3/4)] Draft at http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/GailsCCQarticle.html

McMillan, Gail, "National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations: A Scaleable and Sustainable Approach to Unlock University Resources," *D-Lib Magazine*, Sept. 1996, Ed Fox, et al. at http://www.dlib.org/dlib/september96/theses/09fox.html

Kennelly, Tamara, "Merchants of Thought Meet the Many-Headed Hydra of Speculative Fiction," *Virginia Libraries* 43, no. 2 (April/May/June 1997): 9-11.

Kennelly, Tamara, "Personalizing Membership Appeals: The Key Contact Program," *Archival Outlook* (July 1996): 12.

Kennelly, Tamara, "Restoring the Cracked Mirror," *Northeast Document Center News* 6, no. 2 (winter 1996): 1-2 (abridged version of the article in *Virginia Librarian* , winter 1995).

PRESENTATIONS

Ackermann, Eric, "Archives: How to Prepare for Them and What to Expect," one in a series of workshops on research methods organized by Gary Downey, Center for the Study of Science in Society, Fall 1996.

Ackermann, Eric, "Special Collections" for the Faculty Women's Club Book Group, March 1997.

Kennelley, Tamara, "Presenting Oral History Interviews in Cyberspace" presentation and organized roundtable for the fall 1997 Oral History Association annual meeting, Philadelphia.

Kennelley, Tamara, "Exhibitions from the University Archive" as part of panel in "Archives on Line: A Showcase of Projects in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) Region," May 2, 1997, Charlottesville, VA.

Kennelly, Tamara, "VPI Publications," presentation for VTIC, Feb. 19, 1997.

McMillan, Gail, "Archives Online: Regional Projects" organized panel and lead session at Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference annual meeting, May 2, 1997, Charlottesville, VA.

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

McMillan, Gail, "VT EReserve" for ALA Midwinter Conference, ACRL Discussion Group, Feb. 16, 1997, Washington, DC.

McMillan, Gail, "Online for Higher Education" at National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges annual conference, Nov. 18, 1996, San Diego, CA.

McMillan, Gail, "Electronic Theses and Dissertations: Unlocking Access to Graduate Research" at CAUSE/CNI Southeast Regional Conference: *Teaching & Learning in Cyberspace*, Sept. 12, 1996, Roanoke.

McMillan, Gail, "VT Scholarly Communications Project," preconference workshop organizer and 1 of 5 presenters for CAUSE/CNI Southeast Regional Conference, Sept. 11, 1996.

Nester, Joyce, "Technological Information Available in Mid-Late 1800s," for the Director of Education's program for museum curators and librarians, March 2, 1997.

Smith, Laura Katz, "Recent Additions to the International Archives of Women in Architecture" for the international executive board's annual meeting , Nov. 5, 1996.

Smith, Laura Katz, "The Civil War at Virginia Tech" for participants in the Civil War Weekend, March 22, 1997.

Smith, Laura Katz, "Special Collections' Genealogical Materials" at a meeting of the Montgomery County Chapter, New River Historical Society, April 6, 1997

Smith, Laura Katz, "Genealogical Research in Virginia Tech's Special Collections" for the Southwestern Virginia Genealogical Society, May 7, 1997.

Smith, Laura Katz, "Genealogy Workshop" for the Wilderness Road Regional Museum, May 24, 1997.

Smith, Laura Katz. Several presentations about the departmental and library collections to reference librarians and the reference graduate assistants, August 1996 (with Kennelly); freshman English students about the Appalachian literature and manuscript materials, April 1997; about Special Collections and genealogy materials to the Montgomery County Chapter of the New River Historical Society at the Montgomery Museum in Christiansburg, in April 1997.

PUBLICATIONS: IN-HOUSE

Kennelly, Tamara, "Collaboration Results in Lyric Exhibition," *Library Friends*, vol. 1, no. 3 (winter 1996):6.

McMillan, Gail, "University Libraries Help Set Standards for ETDs," *Library Friends*, vol. 1, no. 3 (1996) at http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/friends_v1n3.pdf

Smith, Laura Katz, Disaster Action Plan updated and put up on Web at http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/dap/dap.htm

Smith, Laura Katz, "Preserving Your Important Papers," in *Library Friends*, Winter 1996 (Vol. 1, No. 3); "Preserving Your Important Memorabilia," in *Library Friends*, Spring/Summer 1996 (Vol. 1, No. 4).

FLIERS, BROCHURES, PRESENTATIONS IN PDF ON THE WEB

"Electronic Theses and Dissertations at Virginia Tech" http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/ETDflier.pdf

"VT ETDs and the US Copyright Law" http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/crightflier.pdf

"VT Online Class Materials" http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/OCM/ereserveflier.pdf

"ETDs: Library Issues and Responsibilities" http://scholar.lib.vt.edu//theses/ETDs_Library_Issues.pdf

"Copyright: Is It Fair Use or Is It Criminal Use?" http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/cright.pdf

NEW WORLD WIDE WEB SITES

International Newspapers http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/InterNews/InterNewshp.html

EReserve homepage at http://reserve.lib.vt.edu (major redesign January 1997) support pages also redesigned for faculty and student handouts

VTOnline: homepage for all classes with any online component; early drafts

Civil War Online at University Libraries' Special Collections for the Development Fund Campaign for the University Libraries held at the German Club, Nov. 22, 1996

1995/1996 Annual Report for Scholarly Communications Project and Special Collections http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/anreport/annrept.html

Guidelines for Editors of Electronic Journals http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/staff/gailmac/ejguide.html

V. NEW SERVICES

Oral History Projects (Tamara Kennelly)   http://scholar2.lib.vt.edu/spec/bwhp/carter/ecintro.htm
   Elaine Carter interview--continue transcription and electronic preparation of series of three
   interviews with oldest black student at Tech. Interviews explore experience of growing up
   black in the New River Valley as the grandchild of a slave. Includes information on local
   school system.
Conducted series of three oral history interviews with honorary distinguished professor Dr.
   Marjorie Grene. Project instigated at the suggestion of the Department of Philosophy.
International Newspapers: *Le Monde, The European,* and *An Nahar*
Bookmark accompanied Agricultural Artifacts exhibition (Joyce Nester)
Friends Book Sale (Joyce Nester managed all aspects)
   garnered $800 to be spent appropriately by Special Collections
Guide to manuscript collections with pre-1800 materials (Laura Katz Smith)

VI. PERSONNEL

The excellent staff of Special Collections require little daily supervision due to their
outstanding work ethic and devotion to customer service. Losing Liz Ackermann did change the
dynamics of the department, but the addition of Kathy Knowles allowed the department to focus on
new responsibilities such as digital imaging and efforts in support of the VIVA Special Collections
Committee. The addition of a graduate student staffing the Reading Room Reference Desk (January-
July 1997) allowed others to focus on collection processing and access.
      The staff in Special Collections were also called on to support librarywide initiatives. Joyce
Nester assumed additional responsibilities, assisting the Friends of University Libraries with their
spring book sale and writing articles for the Friends' newsletter. [In 1997/98 she assumed the
editorship.] Laura Katz Smith contributed to the weeding project by evaluating the Virginia history
materials in Newman Library.
      The loss of Peter Haggerty fall semester 1996 and then James Powell in December, left
Scholarly Communications heavily dependent on the good will of Library Automation for computer
support. The upgrade of the technical assistant's position to that of a programmer, meant the
welcome addition of Tony Atkins (by way of North Carolina with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the
University of Southern California) in April 1996. He has already noticeably improved displays on the
Web and scripting for ejournals, VA News, and ETDs. Assuming James Powell's position as Technical
Director, Valeri Poltavstev, joined the SCP staff in May 1997. His first accomplishment improved
computer access security both in SCP and Special Collections. While still reeling from the backlog of
to-do's and wish-list items, the new staff accepts every challenge with good humor and serious effort.
      Through travel, conference presentations, and teleconferences, Gail McMillan devoted much
of 1996/97 to enhancing library access to ETDs and recruitment of additional university libraries to
the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations. She also informed hundreds of VT
faculty about ETD policies, procedures, and access through the Faculty Development Iniative, in
addition to her brief presentations about Electronic Reserve.

VII. OUTLOOK FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR

Scholarly Communications and Special Collections will use technology to promote access to
information resources at Virginia Tech and the University Libraries. Emphasizing collaborative
strategies that respond to and anticipate the needs of the university community and the public at
large, we will extend access to scholarly electronic publications and to one-of-a-kind resources.
Additionally, we will vastly improve access to Special Collections by indexing all of the Web sites so
that local and remote library users can discover the unique materials through the OpenText search
engine. By imbedding metadata into appropriate homepages, we will also greatly enhance access to
electronic publications, especially through Internet search engines. We woudl like to improve ejournal
support by offering our editors additional editorial board networking capabilities and more timely
use statistics. We would also like to more directly address archival issues by developing recommended
long-term digital storage practices, first employing them ourselves and perhaps extending then to
campus Webmasters. If funds are available, we would like to purchase a new image server to improve

the current ImageBase (http:// http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/imagebase/) (more fields, more access points, and faster network delivery) and grow it into a multimedia image server (for example expanding VA News from WDBJ7 to include video clips).

NEW ELECTRONIC JOURNALS TO BE PUBLISHED IN 1997/98
Journal of Pesticide Safety Education, Dr. Michael Weaver, editor, Virginia Tech
Electronic Antiquities, Dr. Terry Papillion, editor, Virginia Tech

NEW WEB SITES AVAILABLE IN 1997/98:
Blacksburg Bicentennial --collaborative project with the Department of Architecture
Celebration of 125 Years of Virginia Tech (incorporating VPI presidents' sites)
Sherwood Anderson Collection,
 including annotated bibliography of 146 titles in Special Collections
Copyright: Guidelines, Policies, and Information for the University
 first draft: http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/copyright/copyrigh.html
Annual Report 1996/97 for Scholarly Communications and Special Collections
 http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/about/AR199697.pdf (with active links to Web references)
About the Scholarly Communications Project http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/about/

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS IN 1997/98
Eustis, Joanne, and Gail McMillan, "Technology Initiatives and Organizational Change: Higher Education in a Networked World," at CAUSE '97, Orlando, Florida, Dec. 5, 1997.
Eustis, Joanne, and Gail McMillan, "Libraries Address the Challenges of Asynchronous Learning," *Journal of Asynchronous Learning* (from a presentation at the 3rd International Conference on Asynchronous Learning Networks, New York, Oct. 1997.
McMillan, Gail, "Electronic Journals from a Scholarly Communications Point of View," at the annual conference of the American Association of Law Librarians, Baltimore, July 1997
Smith, Laura Katz, "A Mold by Any Other Name: One Librarian's Battle Against a Mold Bloom" in *College & University Libraries,* Fall 1997.
Smith, Laura Katz, "A Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections of the Preston Family of Southwestern Virginia, Kentucky, and South Carolina" *Smithfield Review,* May 1998.
Smith, Laura Katz, "Preserving Your Water and Fire-Damaged Papers and Memorabilia," in *Library Friends,* Vol. 2, no. 1 (Fall/Winter 1997).

VIII. STATISTICS
Reference Desk and other Services
 715 new titles cataloged for OCLC and VTLS
 University of Oregon librarian Sheila Klos spent three days in the department in April 1996 doing research for the "Index to American Women Architects, 1945-95."
 444 responses to inquiries by phone, e-mail. and letter (50% increase from the last fiscal year, mostly due to the access of the guides on the WWW and direct e-mail links
  Reference questions 2013
  Walk-in clients 1416
  Info/Directions 362
Storage: circa 600 cu. ft moved out of Special Collections

| archives: | 215 | books: | 35 |
| manuscripts: | 128 | artifacts: | 215 |

Digitizing images : circa 2955
 Photographs reproduced and preserved, drawn largely from the Special Collections: Norfolk & Western, local history, IAWA, Appalachia, and VPI women. Images were scanned either by staff and student assistants or by PhotoGraphic Services with VIVA or departmental funds. All images have descriptive data (metadata) linked to them and are searchable by title, creator, and subject. In 1997/98 would like to expand search to all fields with OpenText.

Additional statistical summaries are being compiled from http://java.lib.vt.edu/www_stats/