

University of Wisconsin–Madison

# LIBRARIES

Vice Provost for  
Libraries Announces  
Retirement

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Remembering Dow:  
The Voices Behind  
the Images

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A Vision for the  
Future: The Libraries  
Unveil their 25-year  
Facilities Master  
Plan

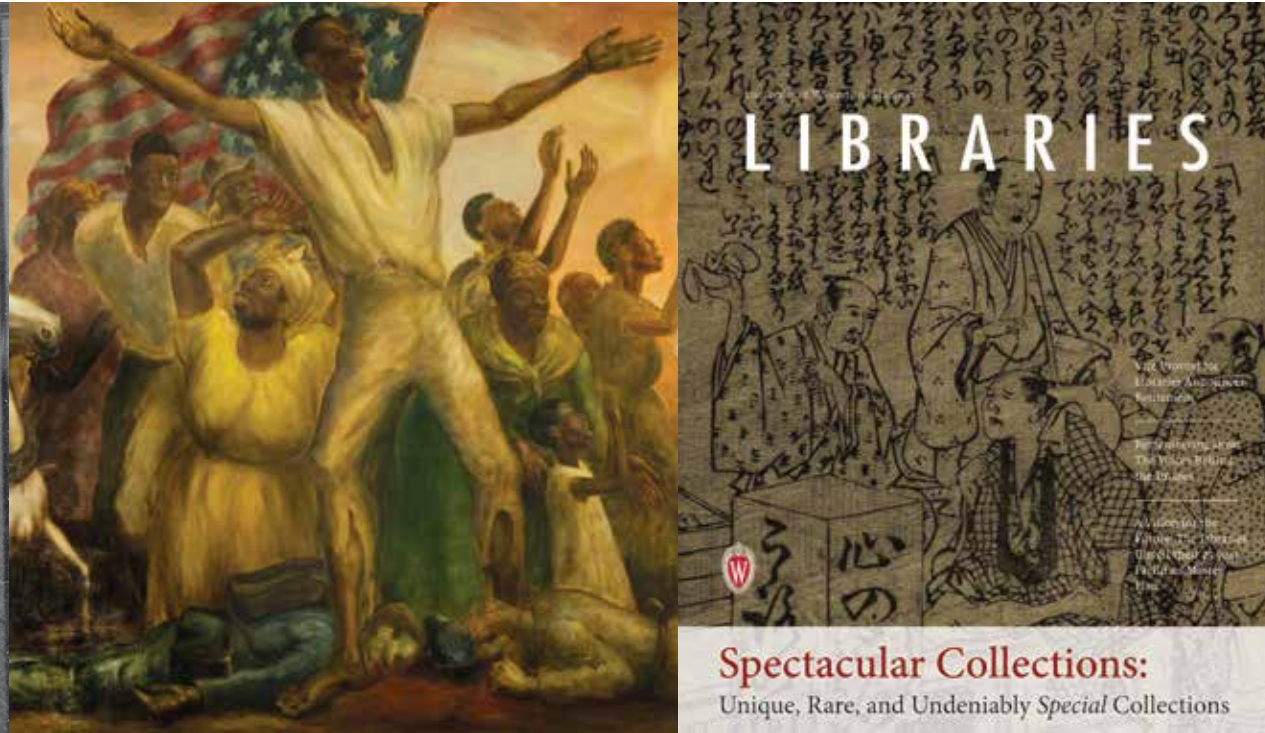


## Spectacular Collections:

Unique, Rare, and Undeniably *Special* Collections

University of Wisconsin–Madison

# LIBRARIES



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**Vice Provost for  
Libraries and  
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Ed Van Gemert

**Editor**  
Natasha Veaser

**Design and Production**  
Daniel L. Joe

**Co-Editors**  
Julie Arensdorf  
Libby Gartland  
Haley Griffith  
JoAnne Lehman  
Al Friedman  
Libby Theune

**Contributors**  
Julie Arensdorf  
Susan Barribeau  
Clare Becker  
Jeanette Casey  
Paloma Celis Carbajal  
Michael Chaim  
Yoriko Dixon  
Libby Gartland  
Jerilyn Goodman  
Haley Griffith

Peter Kerwin  
Kari Knutson  
Lyn Korenic  
Harvey Long  
David Null  
Pamela O'Donnell  
Cat Phan  
Troy Reeves  
Bonnie Shucha  
Ben Strand  
Karla Strand  
Libby Theune  
Kris Turner  
Ed Van Gemert

### Special Photography Contributions

University of Wisconsin–Madison Archives  
University of Wisconsin–Madison Digital Collections  
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Communications/Marketing  
University of Wisconsin Foundation  
Wisconsin School of Business

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# It all starts with the right vision!

Picture this: A completely reconstructed Memorial Library that preserves the historic core of the building while replacing many book stacks with optimized user spaces; a new South Library, and remodeled College and Steenbock Libraries to create a new “hub” model for the campus library presence.

When the Chancellor directed us to “rationalize the number of libraries” at UW–Madison in 2015, we enthusiastically accepted the challenge. The Libraries had the opportunity to engage with external consultants to prepare a campus libraries’ facilities master plan, with the intention of shaping the long-term future of the physical library spaces at UW–Madison. For the past year, we have worked closely with Engberg Anderson Architects (Milwaukee/Madison) and brightspot strategies (New York) to develop that plan, and we are excited to share this vision. I firmly believe the plan emphasizes and builds on our strengths: world-class information resources, the expertise of professional librarians and library staff, and modern, well-designed learning spaces.

The master plan, which looks 25 years into the future, will guide long-term campus library development. It includes a series of projects designed to enhance and support research, teaching and learning, modern learning spaces, collection development, service delivery, strategic partnerships, and

patron and staff experiences. The key projects start with the already-in-progress, successful consolidation efforts, and call for a future six-library hub system that will extend the reach, the consistency, the depth of services, and create a cohesive campus library identity, while reducing the Libraries’ physical footprint on campus.

The hub library system would include:

- College Library
- Memorial Library
- Steenbock Library
- A new South Library
- The Law Library
- Ebling Library (Health Sciences)

Data collection and analysis were critical in creating these recommendations. These data helped inform our understanding of current use and projected growth, decline in the use of print collections combined with a significant increase in the use of digital collections, and physical space uses, including collection storage, user space, campus partner space, and public and staff spaces. More than one-third of the current library space on campus was built to warehouse physical collections, of which only 25% has circulated in the past decade. Currently, collection space on campus occupies approximately 327,000 square feet. The master plan reduces that by 62% to 123,800 square feet.

Although the focus of the master plan is on the Libraries’ physical spaces, the report acknowledges that most people interact with the libraries via the internet. Online access is a significant service to the University, but its impact can get lost during discussions about



Library Hubs: Scenario recommendation image from the facilities master plan.

physical facilities. The Libraries’ website is the second-most used website on campus after the central campus website, receiving 6,400,843 visits just last year. Our E-book chapter views double every year, with last year’s views reaching 1,613,459. Faculty and students requested 61,669 interlibrary loans and consulted research guides 212,036 times.

The vision of the master plan is to strengthen the role of campus libraries in the academic pursuits of the University by providing the needed spaces and services at strategic locations across campus in alignment with campus planning.

The consultants’ final recommendation specifically calls for:

- Continuing library consolidation efforts and filling the Verona shelving facility
- Building an off-site preservation-quality storage facility
- Remodeling College Library
- Remodeling/rebuilding Memorial Library
- Remodeling Steenbock Library
- Building a new South Library

For more information on our entire master plan project, final report and recommendations, and process overview, visit [go.wisc.edu/LibraryMasterPlan](http://go.wisc.edu/LibraryMasterPlan).

On behalf of the UW–Madison Libraries, I thank the many groups and individuals for their contributions to this process: our consultants, as well as Library staff and staff across several campus divisions.

I enthusiastically accept the final report of the UW–Madison Libraries’ Facilities Master Plan.

Edward V. Van Gemert  
Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian  
UW–Madison

# Ed Van Gemert, Vice Provost for Libraries, Announces Retirement after 36 Continuous Years of Service with the UW–Madison Libraries

By Natasha Veaser

Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf announced in September 2017 that Edward Van Gemert, the Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian, will retire from the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries in May 2018. A nationwide search has been launched to fill the position upon Van Gemert’s departure.

Van Gemert’s retirement follows 46 years of work with libraries, and 2018 will mark 36 years of continuous employment with the General Library System. Van Gemert came to the Libraries as a student assistant in Memorial Library in 1971. He has held a number of positions over the years, including serving as the first person at UW–Madison to hold the title of Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian.

“I’ve had the opportunity to work at an outstanding public research university, in a library system that makes an impact on campus, and it has afforded me tremendous experiences along the way,” said Van Gemert. “As I prepare to explore the opportunities in the next chapter of my life, I can say without hesitation, my passion and advocacy for libraries and this institution will be unwavering.”

Van Gemert accepted the position of Vice Provost for Libraries under Provost Paul DeLuca in 2013, with instructions to rethink how the UW–Madison Libraries would advance their role on campus into the future, specifically: growing campus partnerships to assist the fundamental ways the university educates students; creating a strategic plan that encompasses the needs of stakeholders and leadership across campus; and creating a more focused effort to develop a philanthropic fundraising plan with the UW Foundation.

Provost Mangelsdorf, who succeeded DeLuca in 2014, praised Van Gemert for his tireless efforts to move the Libraries forward amid constant change in the higher education environment, all while making the Libraries a sought-after campus partner.

“Ed has been a terrific colleague during a time of significant change, where visionary leadership and collaborative approaches to problem-solving have been paramount,” said Mangelsdorf. “He is a national leader on issues of access to library materials. We are very appreciative of all that he has accomplished with his leadership team during his time as Vice Provost and University Librarian.”

During Van Gemert’s leadership, the Libraries have enjoyed campus support for increased acquisition funding, have been leaders in a long list of well-attended library programs, classes, events, and partnership



initiatives, both at the local and national level, and have made advancements in securing key development and funding partnerships. Additionally, the Libraries have undertaken the development of an extensive facilities master plan, as well as a campus-wide library consolidation project to better position the Libraries to meet campus needs.

Van Gemert has served as Chair of the Council of Wisconsin Libraries (CUWL), was on the Steering Committee of the Coalition of Networked Information (CNI), served in leadership roles with the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA), and served as Chair of the HathiTrust Strategic Advisory Board.

Other Libraries accomplishments during Van Gemert’s time include:

- Providing vision and leadership for the development and transformation of one of the largest academic library systems in North America
- Building and developing strategic campus partnerships which resulted in WisCEL, BioCommons, the Design Lab, and moving SOAR advising into College Library, as well as the upcoming transformations with the Chemistry and Business Learning Commons spaces
- Overseeing responsible HR and budget management during challenging budget scenarios
- Leading fundraising for the now completed Verona Shelving Facility

- Overseeing a successful statewide library automation initiative to implement common library management systems for the UW System Libraries

While the list of successes and opportunities under Van Gemert’s leadership is long, he is quick to note that his success is a direct result of the team he works with, both within the Libraries and across campus, including all of the Libraries’ generous donors and friends.

“The dedication of our staff is second to none, which has made our success possible,” said Van Gemert. “We have endured waves of change over the decades, and that will continue. Change is difficult, but the opportunities for the Libraries to evolve with those shifts and make a great impact will only grow. I’m honored to have been a part of this experience for so long.”

Van Gemert said he looks forward to spending more time with his family, traveling, embarking on several cycling trips, reading, and engaging even more in his volunteer work for adult literacy.



Ed Van Gemert and Heather Weltin, Director of Collection Management & Resources Sharing, at the Verona Shelving Facility groundbreaking.



# Donor Highlight

The University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries are pleased to announce the establishment of the James C. & Nancy Perkins Dast Fund for Special Collections in Memory of Lindsey Saunders Perkins III. This Fund will support the UW–Madison Libraries Special Collections in the fields of Mathematics and Botany. It will benefit the collections, teaching and research by faculty, staff, and students of the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

James (Jim) Dast, MS '68, MA '73, and Nancy Perkins Dast, MS '85, graciously donated \$20,000 to endow this new permanent fund at the University of Wisconsin Foundation. The fund will provide both spendable income to the Department of Special Collections, and support the long-term appreciation of their principal gift.

David Pavelich, Director of Special Collections and Archives, commented, “We’re grateful for friends like Jim and Nancy, who maintain an active commitment to book culture and to the future of Libraries.”

For seven years Jim was the History of Medicine Librarian at the W. S. Middleton Medical Library, and for 20 years he was Conservator for the General Library System, until his retirement in 1997. Jim has been a long-time active volunteer of the Friends of the Libraries and has been instrumental in the organization and success of the Friends of the Libraries book sales. He began volunteering for the book sale at its inception in 1985. In 2004, when John Toussaint stepped down as organizer, Jim took over the operation and has helped sales continue to flourish. Jim has also served on the Friends of the Library Board since 1999. In 2015 he was honored with the Senior Service Award given by the Rotary Club of Madison.

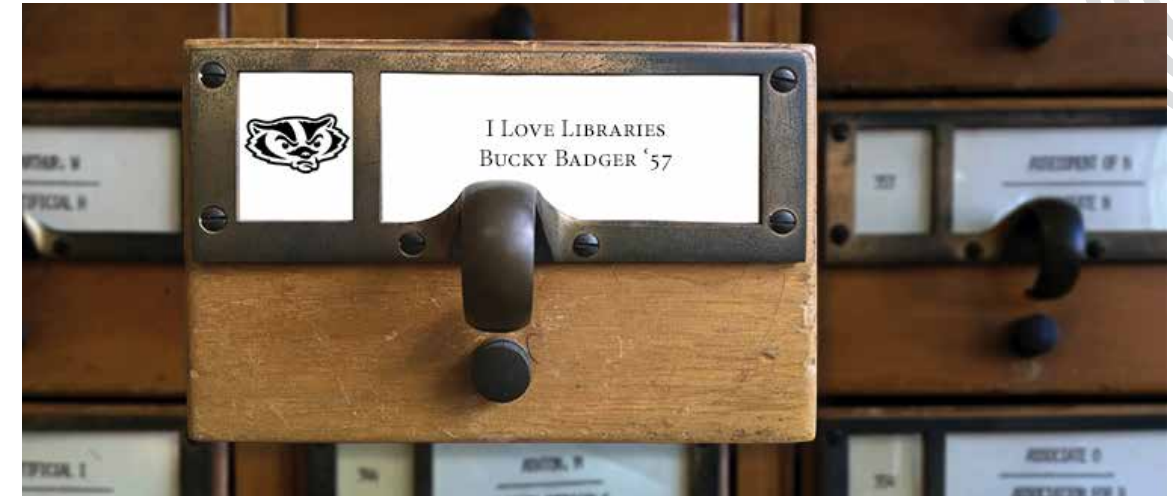


James C. & Nancy Perkins Dast



Friends Book Sale

## A Unique Opportunity to Give



For generations, UW–Madison students relied on the card catalog, “the original Google,” to find what they needed. Now a wall of the card catalog drawers is being saved for posterity.

A limited number of drawers in Memorial Library are available for you to add your name, a personal message, or the name of a loved one.

Your gift of \$1,000 will help renovate Library spaces for the next generation of Badgers. As a thank you, we will add a name or a message of your choosing to a drawer in the card catalog room.

Each drawer offers up to three lines of text, 22 characters per line limit. Along with your personalized message, you’ll be able to choose Bucky, the UW Crest, “In Honor Of,” or “In Memory Of” for the left side of your drawer pull.

Reserve yours today, before they’re all checked out!

Want to learn more? Visit our Card Catalog Drawer page: [library.wisc.edu/giving/campaign](http://library.wisc.edu/giving/campaign)

There are two ways you can reserve your drawer:

1. By Mail: Print a pledge form and mail it to the University of Wisconsin Foundation with your \$1,000 gift or your 3-year pledge (\$334, \$333, \$333).

2. Fill out an online form and complete your \$1,000 online gift to the Foundation.

Other naming opportunities for study carrels, rooms, and group study spaces are also available. For more information contact Ben Strand, Libraries Development Director at 608-308-5405 or [ben.strand@supportuw.org](mailto:ben.strand@supportuw.org).



DEPARTMENT OF  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

# Highlights



## Kajutsuhōhi (火術法秘)

Kajutsuhōhi (火術法秘) is a Japanese manuscript of a firework business secret booklet from 1808 in Tokushima prefecture. The Hakuho-do owner, Naochika, transmitted the secret recipes for his fireworks to Mr. Yamada directly, and he wrote it down. While it's unclear who Mr. Yamada was, we can assume he was intended to inherit the Hakuho-do business. In this book, there are red ink drawings of designs such as "ascending dragon," "descending dragon," "ball chasing dragon with sound effect," and more. This fascinating book lets us peek into the night sky of summer during the Edo period.



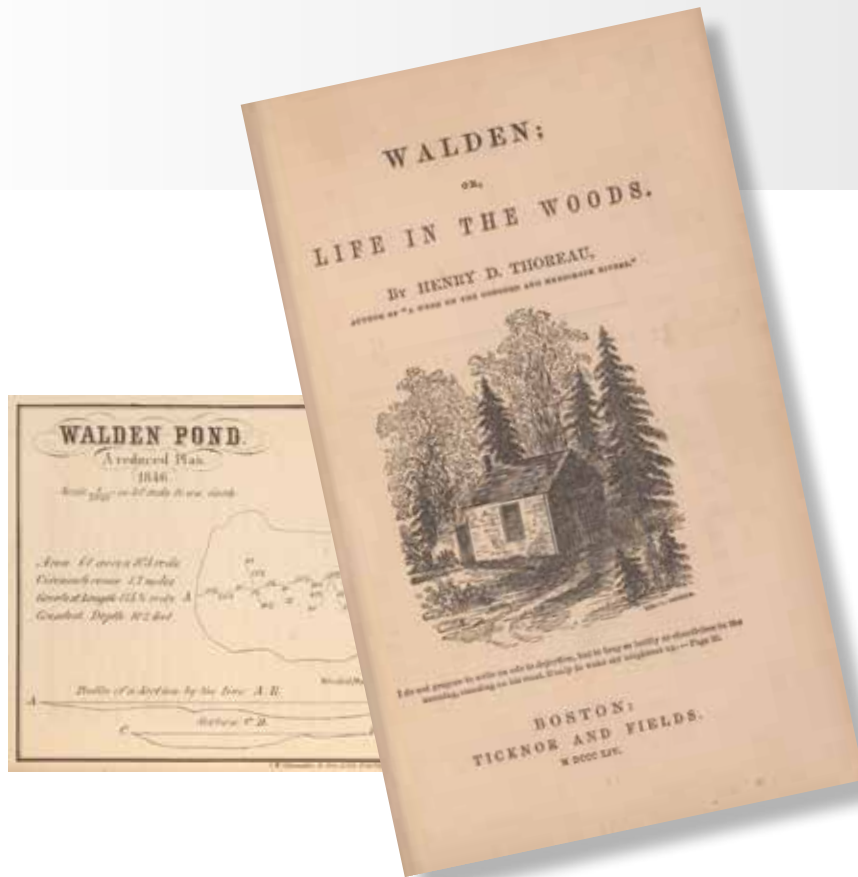
Banks, Alisa C (Alisa Christophe). *Planted*. [Dallas, Texas]: [A Bee Press], 2016.

## Alisa Banks

Alisa Banks is an African-American artist whose work considers the role of gardens as spaces of memory and hope, and as links to ancestral legacies. Her one-of-a-kind artist's book, *Planted*, contains dried plant specimens such as pittosporum, rosa, loropetalum, hydrangea, maple, and oak collected from her personal garden. These delicate bits of nature are embedded in cloth netting sewn to a fanciful crocheted cover that calls to mind a garden gate. Enclosed is a paper triptych of prints based on photographs of her mother's garden, and an eloquent essay about the ability of plants to evoke a sense of place and to make connections with the past.

"Gardens are often spaces that offer invitation to visit, and aspects of gardens and gardening can conjure powerful memories," said Banks. "For example, the fig is a signifier for the laughter of crawfish and shrimp boils, the smell of gumbo and pecan candy at an aunt's house, and of the paper mill in town, the feel of the hot Louisiana summer sun. Figs bring to mind the clatter of shoes on the parquet floors of a great aunt's living room as her students await their piano lessons; the bigness of the air under moss-covered trees at a cousin's house, the closeness of my grandmother's kitchen and the smell of chicory coffee; the gentle way an aunt washes our hair; and tall, mysterious boy cousins from Baton Rouge."

*Planted* is part of the Kohler Art Library's impressive Artists' Book Collection, comprising over 1,200 captivating works of book art creations.



## Walden

Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*, first published in 1854, is an iconic and influential American book. *Walden* is a seemingly straightforward account of a man simply choosing to live alone on a pond for a year, yet it is much more. It is a quasi-autobiographical work about nature, people, history, and American society. The first edition is a plain brown book, notably unfancy, yet containing within the narrative that inspires and amuses readers still today. *Walden* was a stone tossed in a pond, still rippling outward.

## Vukasovic Flores, Natalia, Imaginario Precolombino, Santiago: Taller de Artes Visuales (T.A.V.), 2014. First edition.

This collection contains fifteen woodcut relief prints (xylographies) on handmade paper (from natural fibers such as artichoke, pineapple, and onion) by Chilean artist Tatiana Vukasovic (Santiago de Chile, 1975) depicting creatures from various pre-Columbian cultures. All texts contained were engraved as part of the art pieces. Each print is signed, numbered, and dated by the artist.

Since 1997, Vukasovic has been working under Taller de Artes Visuales (T.A.V.), a well-known center founded in 1974 by art professors from the University of Chile to protest the military coup.



## Cuca Records—New Acquisitions

Between 1959 and the early 1970s, Cuca Records of Sauk City, WI, was the most active independent record label in the Upper Midwest, releasing hundreds of polka, blues, country, gospel, rock, pop, surf, jazz, old-time, R&B, and ethnic music records. Most of the artists were from Wisconsin, and many of the original records are exceedingly rare and have become much-sought-after collectors' items. The Mills Music Library recently acquired more than 50 of the rarest and most collectible singles to add to the already extensive Cuca collection, gifted by record label founder and owner Jim Kirchstein. Among the newest additions are:

*Nathan D. Gibson*  
*Ethnic American Music*  
*Curator, Mills Music Library*

### Lonnie Walker—Let's Talk About Us (1962)

Lonnie Walker was an African-American Elvis Presley imitator from Coahoma, MS. He died in Louisiana in 2008, but in the 1960s he was living in and performing around Madison, WI. According to *Goldmine* magazine he was known in the area as "King Creole" and "Black Elvis." On his sole Cuca release he is backed by Dave Kennedy and the Ambassadors from La Crosse, WI, who scored a local hit with "Wooden Heart" before it was covered by Joe Dowell for a much bigger national chart topper. Lonnie later fronted a band called The Hustlers before becoming a James Brown impersonator in Las Vegas. This is his first of only two known recorded efforts.

### The Chieftones—Shouldn't Have Did What I Done (1966)

Billy ThunderKloud & the Chieftones were from Edmonton, Alberta, but lived in Boaz, WI, for a while in the '60s, where they kept horses and a caged lion. All four members of the band (Vincent "Billy ThunderKloud" Clifford, Jack Wolf, Barry Littlestar, and Richard Grayowl) were members of the Tsimshian Indian Nation of Northwest British Columbia, Canada. It was later discovered that Thunderkloud and Littlestar were brothers who had been separated as young kids. They formed the Chieftones and moved to Boaz, WI, in the '60s before moving to Nashville and later Boston. The Chieftones had five entries on the country charts in 1975-76. Their first release, "Shouldn't Have Did What I Done," is a great garage rock 45 and highly sought-after.

### The Grand Prix – San Jose (1963)

Though surf music is most often associated with the West Coast, Cuca Records documented the Midwest's early and mid '60s prolific instrumental rock scene, which included several surf releases. The Grand Prix (Rick Berkanovic, Kenny Knoll, Don Longhurst, Jeff Hammer, and Bruce Cole) from Greendale, WI (just outside of Milwaukee) only cut one record for Cuca's subsidiary Sara label, but it is one of the best and more sought-after examples of the Midwest surf genre. Bruce Cole went on to play in several more influential Milwaukee rock bands such as Invasion, the Ricochettes, the Savoyes, the Van-Tels, and the Triumphs.



# Living in the Past:

University Archivist David Null Looks back on His Time at UW–Madison as He Prepares to Retire



By Libby Gartland

When David Null, the Director of the University Archives, announced that he would officially retire in December 2017, his team in the Archives was not surprised, but they were not looking forward to this moment. With over 30 years of experience, 23 of which were spent at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, Null has a vast knowledge of archival practices he’ll be taking with him into retirement, but he’ll leave behind a legacy of innovation. Under Null’s care and expertise, the UW Archives have become one of the premier academic archives in the country. It’s an achievement Null credits to the team around him.

“I’ve been fortunate to work with really great, forward-thinking people who have been instrumental in looking for new ways to push our work into the future,” explained Null. “I’m also lucky to be in a position where so much of my work results in really just making people happy. It’s amazing the reaction you get from people when you find something in our archives that means so much to them. That joy is a reward in itself.”

Before coming to Wisconsin, Null spent four years as a social science librarian at Miami University. Upon leaving Ohio, he worked for 10 years as the coordinator for social science collection development and as head of the Reference Department at the University of New Mexico. In 1994,

Null became the Head of the Reference Department at UW–Madison, a position he held until he became the acting head of the University Archives and Records Management in 2002. Since officially taking the helm as the Director of the Archives in 2005, Null has taken strides to make the Archives more accessible, in part, by harnessing the newest technology possible to move materials online. Noted Troy Reeves, head of the Oral History Program, Null has been a driving force for moving the Archives into the digital age.

“Before I got here in 2007, all of our interviews were conducted and stored on analog cassette tapes. There isn’t an ‘easy-button’ to press to turn a cassette tape into a digital file,” explained Reeves. “It was going to be a long process and David was crucial in advocating to get the necessary equipment.”

Null and Reeves hired students who spent almost three years digitizing about 2,500 hours of recorded interviews, most of which are now accessible online. Null also kick-started the process of digitizing the Archives’ two million photographs. While ensuring materials continued to be digitized and put online, Null also turned his focus on more aggressively promoting the other materials in the Archives.

“It’s become increasingly important to help patrons understand that our online materials represent only a fraction of our entire collection,” he said.



During his time at UW–Madison, Null helped transform the Archives in many ways. His efforts have long been focused on creating a more diverse, accurate representation and timeline of the University’s history. Instead of holding only papers and memorabilia from the former chancellors and deans, Null also acquired materials from different groups across campus and the Madison community. Notably, after receiving grants from the New Harvest Foundation, the George L. Mosse Program in History, and several other donors, Null, a student archivist, and a steering committee launched the Madison LGBTQ Archive, offering the LGBTQ community a safe place to donate their materials, where they will be properly cared for and made available to the public.

Since the inception of the LGBTQ Archives, it has received over 80 collections from local individuals and countless hours of oral history interviews. Funding from donors has allowed the archive to digitize materials, acquire new collections, hire students, and hold exhibitions.

“This outreach helps not only promote the Archives, but it strengthens the LGBTQ community by giving them an opportunity to discuss and understand their past,” said Null. “There are still many important events in Wisconsin’s history that are undocumented, especially the history of underrepresented populations.”

The rise of the digital age also meant the rise of new types of documents to be archived. Cat Phan, the Digital and Media Archivist, noted Null has advocated for the changes required to deal with these new types of materials.

“The records that document the history of the University are now mostly electronic, whether email correspondence, records of the Board of Regents, or social media feeds of University Communications,” said Phan. “We are developing digital archiving practices that will help us preserve these records.”



As his time at UW–Madison comes to an end, it’s clear that Null has made an immense impact. His leadership has not only helped guide his unit into the digital age, but has focused on the need to create a more accessible and inclusive department. Null’s knowledge will be especially missed by his coworkers, so much so that Phan and others joke they need to “download Null’s brain” before he sets off on his new adventure.

“I will miss working with my colleagues in the Archives, the campus libraries, and the broader archival communities. I’ll especially miss our students,” said Null. “But, I honestly won’t miss navigating to campus in a snow storm.”

## Looking at Important Firsts on Campus

Harvey Long, a PhD student in the School of Library and Information Science, developed an online timeline of the history of African-American students on campus for the University Archives. After receiving a Mosaic Fellowship from the Society of American Archivists and the Association of Research Libraries, Long worked at the Archives part-time to develop and complete this project. The timeline starts at the year 1875 with William Smith Noland, the first African-American to graduate from UW–Madison, and ends at the year 1969 with UW graduate Gwendolyn Brooks, the first African-American to win the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry.

“I was motivated to conduct this archival research to further our understanding of the Badger experience,” explained Long. “Black students are often excluded from the traditional narrative, or the story we tell about the University.”

# DoIT Tech Academy: Partnering for the Future



For two years, the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries have partnered with the Division of Information Technology (DoIT) to host students participating in the DoIT Tech Academy. As part of efforts to align with UW–Madison’s Diversity Framework, Information Technology Academy (ITA) is a pre-college initiative with the goal of increasing enrollment rates of diverse students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. ITA programs serve students in the communities of Madison, Lac du Flambeau, and Oneida.

Jessica Newman, who co-supervises one of the library modules with fellow librarian Heather Shimon, noted, “This is our second year hosting an ITA intern at Steenbock Library. ITA is a fantastic program, and we are so glad to be able to support it. The internship is very rewarding—we have the opportunity to mentor a student with an interest in information technology and teach some aspects of being an information specialist, and we benefit from the student’s talent and skills in creating graphic design content for our library.”

**Featured Student: Nyla Eltahir, Junior at West High School. She grew up in Madison; loves art, music, and theater. Eltahir shared her thoughts and experience in the program with us.**

1. ITA is a pre-college program focused on preparing students of color or financially disadvantaged backgrounds for college. We spend a lot of time learning about and familiarizing ourselves with different forms of technology. We all were accepted into the

program in 8th grade after writing an essay, submitting a letter of recommendation from a teacher, and going through an interview. We meet every other Saturday during all four years of high school, as well as participate in summer camps and classes, including an internship our junior year!

2. I was a graphic design intern. My job included planning and designing materials for outreach and marketing, event photography, graphic design for library marketing and signage, and consulting with staff.

3. This internship was my first work experience. I was challenged in a way that I had never been before, not only because I was new to the working world, but also because it was the first time that I actually needed to apply my technology skills to something outside of ITA.

4. I would say that my internship with Steenbock has been my most rewarding experience during my time with ITA. I got to use the knowledge that I had learned in my tech classes.

5. This experience helped to inform me about academic library systems and what they have to offer to the students.

6. I felt so accomplished every time I completed a project and it was approved. It was such a rewarding experience to be contributing to the Libraries.

7. I hope this experience will help me find what I might want from a future career. I was shown a real-world example of how coworkers interact. I got to experience the dynamics of the library staff.

8. I would tell students to definitely take the opportunity to do an internship, any internship, if it is presented to you.

# Diversity Resident Librarian Program

By Haley Griffith

The UW–Madison Diversity Resident Librarian position, established in 2013, provides entry-level librarians from diverse backgrounds an opportunity to develop skills and professional growth in academic librarianship.

The program is designed to meet both the professional goals and interests of the Resident as well as the service and operational priorities of the Library. The program supports the goals of the Association of Research Libraries’ “Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce.”

Maij Xyooj, one of the current Diversity Resident Librarians, reflected on her experience so far:

“I have been in my position since August 1st, 2017. Since I started, I have gained so much insight into where and how I fit in at academic libraries. I have discovered areas of librarianship that I didn’t think I would be interested in. For example, in working on a project to collect stories about Hmoob folks’ experience with gender-based violence, I realized that I might be interested in archives and digital collections. Before I started, it never occurred to me that I could be interested in archives and digital collections.”

From 2013 to 2016, the program was a two-year experience. Beginning in 2017, the residency was expanded to three years. Year one includes a placement in College Library to give the resident librarian a firm foundation in academic librarianship with experience in reference, instruction, and collection development.

After the first year, a two-year placement in a library will be arranged based on the resident’s interests and the needs of the Libraries.



Maij Xyooj

We asked Maij what her biggest challenge was in the Diversity Resident position.

“The most challenging part of this residency has been getting acquainted with the General Library System. For example, how does the focus of X committee differ from Y committee?”

Maij also shared what she hopes to learn from the residency.

“At the end of the residency, I want to have acquired the skills and experience necessary to become an effective advocate for marginalized communities, to walk away with skills to build meaningful and empowering relationships between institutions and the communities they have marginalized and silenced.”

Be sure to check our Spring 2018 issue as we highlight Diversity Resident Librarian Kalani Adolpho.

LIBRARIES

# Cause for Celebration:

## A Look Back at the Office of the Gender and Women's Studies Librarian over the Last 40 Years

By Haley Griffith, JoAnne Lehman, and Karla Strand



The position and the office were formally established in 1977, but the idea that the university needed librarians with expertise in women's studies had been developing for years. Information was often scattered across a range of subject areas, and access to resources was often uncoordinated and incomplete. "Clearly, the idea reflects the creativity and nontraditional thinking that invigorated academic feminism," Searing wrote. "The emerging field of women's studies was causing severe bibliographic headaches which an expert librarian seemed best prepared to cure."

The unique decision was also made that although the Librarian-at-Large would maintain a "headquarters" on the UW-Madison campus, the position and the Office would serve the entire UW System. The process of funding the project was itself a formidable example of the influence and ability of feminists to transform the situation of women on campus. After an initial proposal was rejected by the governor's office,

tireless faculty and librarians around the state successfully convinced the UW System's vice president for academic affairs to fund the position, with the Office housed in Memorial Library and Esther Stineman serving as the first Librarian-at-Large. This position could provide the knowledge and skill necessary to locate, acquire, and disseminate information about relevant resources in the growing interdisciplinary field of women's studies.

Esther Stineman spearheaded several projects to develop the Office's outreach. She created a "union catalog" of women's studies materials across the campuses in the UW System, encouraged her staff to compile reading lists on relevant topics, and purchased the History of Women microfilm collection. With colleague Catherine Loeb (the Office's first editor), she published *Women's Studies: A Recommended Core Bibliography*, a guide to nearly 2,000 books and periodicals considered essential for library collections supporting women's studies courses.

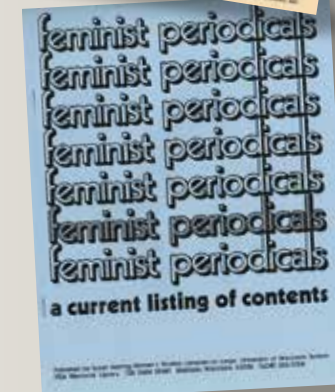
Stineman left her post as Librarian-at-Large after 19 months to return to graduate school. Linda Parker, a women's studies specialist from the University of Kansas, was then

hired, as the project's pilot funding had successfully been renewed.

Parker ushered in the computer technology age for the project when she acquired the Office's first microcomputer. She also launched a national effort to engineer an electronic database in women's studies. Parker was committed to a "feminist librarians' motto" of, in her words, "building networks, disseminating new information and research, launching new campaign for change, and stirring new insights, and nurturing our growth as individuals." (*Transforming women's education: the history of women's studies in the University of Wisconsin System*, page 93.)

As resources and technology grew, so did the visibility of the Office, in large part through the topical reading lists known as Wisconsin Bibliographies in Women's Studies, as well as through what became its flagship subscription publications: *New Books on Women, Gender, and Feminism*; *Feminist Collections: A Quarterly of Women's Studies Resources*; and *Feminist Periodicals: A Current Listing of Contents*. As part of the Office's rebranding effort during its 40th-anniversary year, those three subscription publications have been given a design makeover, and *Feminist Collections* will be published under a new title in 2018: *Resources for Gender and Women's Studies: A Feminist Review*.

In 1989, the UW Women's Studies Consortium was created to help develop and support the growth of women's studies programs in Wisconsin as well as to nurture a collaborative model of interinstitutional educational innovation. Today, the UW System Gender and Women's Studies Consortium consists of an advisory panel of representatives from each of the GWS programs across the System who meet twice a year to discuss issues, cooperate on initiatives, and further UW goals as they pertain to women across the state. The Consortium maintains numerous



Phyllis Holman Weisbard

"We believe that the office is the only one of its kind in the country dedicated solely to GWS, feminist, and LGBT librarianship."

- Karla Strand

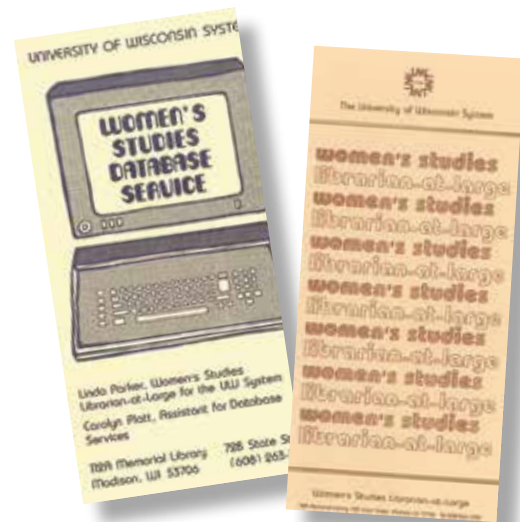
What began as a two-year pilot program staffed by a "Librarian-at-Large" has developed into an information resource hub with global impact. The Office of the Gender and Women's Studies Librarian marked its 40th year in 2017. Since its founding in 1977, the Office has grown from serving students, faculty, librarians, and administrators across the UW System to cultivating partnerships nationally and internationally while remaining true to its original mission.

"Celebrating 40 years of work, education, and outreach is humbling," said Karla Strand, who has served as the Gender and Women's Studies Librarian since 2013. "This office was years in the making. I look at what so many people have accomplished in this relatively short amount of time and am energized by the possibilities in our future."

"We believe that the office is the only one of its kind in the country dedicated solely to GWS, feminist, and LGBT librarianship," she added.

"Librarian-at-Large" was the first official title for the role. Sue Searing, who later served in the position — by then known as Women's Studies Librarian — from 1982 to 1991, wrote that the original title "signaled the innovative nature and wide-ranging responsibilities of the position...[which] supports and enriches women's studies, research, teaching, and outreach throughout the UW System" (Sue Searing, in Chapter 6 of *Women on Campus in the Eighties: Old Struggles, New Victories*, 1993).





partnerships and has held the Midwest's premier GWS conference for 40 years. The GWSL Office is a member of the Consortium and assists in conference planning each year.

In 40 years, only five individuals have occupied the position now known as Gender and Women's Studies Librarian: After Stineman and Parker, the role was filled by Sue Searing and then by Phyllis Holman Weisbard; the position is now held by Karla J. Strand. Searing helped the Office solidify its place as an important part of the interdisciplinary program across the UW System. During her tenure she published another volume of *Women's Studies: A Recommended Core Bibliography*, ensuring continued access to these rich resources.

Similarly, Weisbard took it upon herself not to let the work and success of the office slow down. Fondly recalling her 22 years in the position and the key partnerships she created with Consortium members, including Jacqueline Ross, Fran Garb, and then Helen Klebesadel, she said, "I have great memories of travelling around the state with them, both of our official business, which included a lot of strategizing, and of fun dinners out and side trips. When asked about my job, I could say being part of the Consortium as a librarian meant being the resource/research arm of the Consortium and travelling to System campuses, but it also meant participating in Consortium projects, from a history of the Consortium itself to a Wisconsin Native American Nations website."

Karla J. Strand, hired through a national search following Weisbard's retirement in 2013, has turned her attention to how the Office can make a greater impact beyond the borders of Wisconsin to both the national and international communities. "Our goal is to build on what was started and become an international center in gender and women's studies," explained Strand.

Strand noted that in order for many developing international communities to participate fully in the knowledge society, they often need assistance with finding and accessing resources, learning digital literacy skills, and developing structures for information sharing and preservation. She believes the Office of the Gender and Women's Studies Librarian can play a significant role in providing this information, training, and support for individuals and communities, all predicated upon feminist values of gender equality, agency, and sustainability. As the focus of her doctoral research, the role of information and libraries in the empowerment of women and girls around the world is a guiding value that Strand brings to the GWSL Office. This is demonstrated in the digital projects the Office coordinates, including Wisconsin Women Making History and the International Women's Library, as well as in the individual research assistance Strand provides to scholars and activists from across the U.S., as well as countries such as Iran, Malawi, Nigeria, and Spain.

Strand and her staff feel they are not only up to the tasks of continuing to publish guides to new materials, expanding digital resources, and building international partnerships in the years to come; they look forward to the challenges and possibilities in front of them.

"We want to see how this office can have an impact on people around the world," she says, "and we are poised to make that impact."

UW—Madison Libraries:

## By The Numbers 2016–2017



45%

40%

35%

30%

25%

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

# Common Ground:

## Libraries, Wisconsin School of Business Team Up to Create the new Learning commons

“We anticipate this project’s outcome will serve as a foundation for the design of modern and transformed libraries on this campus.”

Ed Van Gemert

*Collaboration by Clare Becker, Peter Kerwin, and Natasha Veeser*

It’s not strictly business, it’s personal. At least that’s the approach the Wisconsin School of Business and the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries are taking as they partner on a major project to renovate Grainger Hall, creating a state-of-the-art, three-floor Learning Commons, designed to meet the educational needs of a diverse and innovative campus community.

“We are always crowded with students in our current space,” said Michael Enyart, director of the Business Library. “The renovation will not only give us more and better space but also, more importantly, be an incredible opportunity for student learning and collaboration.”

The renovation across nearly 35,000 square feet in Grainger Hall began in the fall of 2017. When completed in mid-2018, the changes will unify three existing floors into one cohesive commons designed for making, doing, producing, and innovating—a vibrant place for students to collaborate, exchange ideas, and dream big while meeting the demand for more active learning spaces.

“People are going to want to be in this space,” said Meloney Linder, Associate Dean of Communications, Facilities, and Technology. “I don’t know if we can even predict all of the ways our community will use the space.”

In addition to the transformation of Grainger Hall, the renovation also signals one of the first steps in an ambitious master plan that will transform library buildings across the UW–Madison campus.

“The careful design and implementation of a service model that provides better library services in modern, transformed learning spaces can only occur in close collaboration with academic departments,” said Ed Van Gemert, Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian at UW–Madison.

The Learning Commons plans include:

- On the first floor, a new state-of-the-art Finance and Analytics Lab featuring cutting-edge technology, including Bloomberg Terminal, a software system that allows real-time access to market data.
- The existing undergraduate computer lab on the first floor will be transformed from rows of front-facing desks into an open collaborative area where students can engage with other students in small or large groups.
- The second and third floors will be home to the WSB Business Library and the Business Learning Center, featuring five active learning classrooms with two dozen seats each, including two rooms that can open into larger capacities of 50 each.
- The upper floors will include ten breakout rooms, areas for collaborative gathering, and casual seating.
- On the third floor, rows of long tables will be replaced with more comfortable seating options for individual quiet study.

Stationary shelving will help reduce the density of traditional book stacks and free up areas for students to occupy. It’s a project the Libraries have enthusiastically endorsed, as they continue to look for ways to collaborate with partners across campus.

“From the start of this project, the Libraries and the School of Business partnered on the service model design as well as the renovation of spaces,” explained Van Gemert. “We anticipate this project’s outcome will serve as a foundation for the design of modern and transformed libraries on this campus.”





While Curry worked on the mural, it was business as usual for the library: underneath the mural, surrounded by painter's drop cloths, librarians continued to lend books and provide research assistance to law students at the circulation desk.

## The 75th Anniversary of John Steuart Curry's "Freeing of the Slaves" mural

By Bonnie Shucha, Deputy Director, UW Law Library

John Steuart Curry's iconic mural, "Freeing of the Slaves," has provided quiet inspiration to generations of University of Wisconsin law students. The mural, which dominates the Law Library's Quarles & Brady Reading Room, turned 75 in 2017. Completed in July 1942, the mural was commissioned to adorn the "new" Law Library reading room built just two years before.

The mural portrays Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation through "the contrasting elements of chaos and order, sunlight and storm," according to art historian Laurence Schmeckebier. Amidst the chaos of war and death emerges a large central figure with arms outstretched, leading a group of former slaves in a celebration of freedom. Curry wrote of the mural, which he created during

World War II, "I feel that in this painting I have made a work that is historically true, and I also feel it is prophetic of that which is to come."

Originally destined for the U.S. Department of Justice Building in 1936, the mural's design was rejected by federal officials who told Curry that they feared that "serious difficulties...might arise as a result of the racial implications of the subject matter." However, the design caught the attention of then-Law School dean Lloyd Garrison, grandson of famous abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison: "When John Curry first showed me the sketch which he had made for 'Freeing of the Slaves' I thought it was one of the most impressive pictures I had ever seen." Dean Garrison felt a strong connection to the work, writing, "I felt from the beginning that the mural would

be appropriate for the law building...Here is one of the great events in our constitutional history, an event fashioned in the midst of a national crisis by a great lawyer-president. The mural not only symbolizes that event but proclaims in a noble and patriotic setting the dignity and freedom of all persons, however humble, in a democracy whose ideals of liberty are summed up and protected by the constitution."

In celebration of its 75th anniversary, the Law Library has compiled a collection of materials about the creation of the mural and its enduring presence through many years of change at the Law School. A limited number of color reprints of the mural, as depicted in Paul Reidinger's Summer 1985 *Gargoyle* article, are available to Law School alumni upon request.

While John Steuart Curry painted his mural in the summer of 1941 through July 1942, the Law Library circulation and reserve desk continued to operate as usual. According to former Law Library Director Maurice Leon in a Spring 1970 *Gargoyle* article, "a scaffolding was stretched across the north end of the reading room and artist-in-residence, John Steuart Curry, sat or walked on it while painting his giant mural, *Freeing of the Slaves*. Underneath, surrounded, and enfolded by painter's drop cloths, the circulation and reserve desk attendants carried on business as usual." The abundance of scaffolding and painting supplies scattered around the back of the reading room did not deter students from studying in the Law Library or using the library's resources.



# Marking History

UW Archives and Madison Public Library Collaborative Project  
Commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Dow Demonstrations

By Natasha Veaser

October 2017 marked 50 years since the Dow demonstrations took place on campus, transforming the lives of many students, staff, and community members. Beginning on October 18 and into October 19, 1967, hundreds of students protesting Dow Chemical blocked access to the Commerce Building on campus, with Madison Police removing participants with force. The events are considered to have transformed UW-Madison into one of the leaders in the anti-war movement of the time.

50 years later, the UW-Madison Libraries and Madison Public Library collaborated through a joint public history project to collect stories from those who lived through the Dow demonstrations and share the impact it made on their lives. This project highlights how necessary it is to preserve this piece of campus history through the stories of the individuals involved.

"The events of October 1967 left a lasting impact on both the campus and wider community," said Troy Reeves, Head of the Oral History Program with the University Archives. "The students' experiences helped shape the campus anti-war culture throughout the remainder of the 1960s and into the next decade. Ensuring that these stories are captured for the future is not only about preserving history, but helping to understand the impact it has had on the present and will have on the future."

To gather stories from those who experienced the demonstrations, the UW-Madison Libraries partnered with Madison Public Library to set up and staff recording stations at the Central Library on October 18-19, 2017 so community members could share their memories.

"We are pleased to have this opportunity to work together with the University Archives to capture stories of this important era in Madison's history," said Michael Spelman, Public Services Manager of the Central Library. "By highlighting both institutions, we hope that Madisonians will be inspired to learn more about the history of their city and the University."

As part of the 50th anniversary of the demonstrations, the University Archives also assisted the University as it launched its own collaborative special multimedia project of alumni experiences during the Dow demonstrations.

If you would like to share your story, you may contact Troy Reeves at 608-890-1899 or [troy.reeves@wisc.edu](mailto:troy.reeves@wisc.edu).



## MUSIC, MEMORIES AND A GATHERING WITH A PURPOSE!

Madison Reunion & Conference on Madison in the '60s  
June 14-16, 2018

A half century on, key figures from Madison's original '60s "counterculture" will return to celebrate their student days and make history again, this time with active encouragement. The Conference on Madison in the '60s, by registration only, presents three days of discussions, panels, tours, tastes, and talent in and around the UW Memorial Union. Featured will be notable UW students and faculty such as filmmakers Errol Morris and Jim Abrahams, political scientist Katherine Cramer, professor and anti-war activist Joe Elder, actors Carolyn Purdy Gordon and André De Shields, activists Marjorie Tabankin, Gwen Gillon, and Paul Soglin, journalists David Maraniss and Jeff Greenfield, historians Hasia Diner and Jonathan Pollack, and many more, on such topics as the legacies of historians George Mosse and Harvey Goldberg, freedom riding, feminism, psychopharmacology, and Madison as a breeding ground for popular comedy.

"Madison in the '60s was not just a time and place, it was a state of mind," said Ben Sidran. "The Conference is a return to our history, a time to consider who we are, how we got here, and what we left behind." Ticketed performances at the Memorial Union

Shannon Hall feature the Motown sound of The Temptations and the Reunion Blues with musicians Boz Scaggs, Ben Sidran and Tracy Nelson.

For more information and to register for the conference visit [madisonreunion.com](http://madisonreunion.com) or email [info@madisonreunion.com](mailto:info@madisonreunion.com).



CONFERENCE  
ON MADISON  
IN THE '60s  
MEMORIAL UNION

JUNE 14-16, 2018

# Love, Translated

By Natasha Veaser

Wandering the libraries on the University of Wisconsin–Madison campus can result in the discovery of countless resources: books, journals, movies, games, equipment to check out, and...your mother? But that's (kind of) what happened to Notesong Srisopark Thompson one day during her freshman year in 1993.

"I remember it so vividly, I was looking in the 4M PL section of Memorial Library, almost as if that area was calling me," said Notesong. "Sure enough, there she was, peeking out from one of the shelves."

Before the hairs on the back of your neck stand up much farther, no, it wasn't actually Notesong's mother standing before her. But it was one of her books.

"I called her when I got back to my dorm because I was so excited to see her book, and one with my face on the cover, to boot," explained Notesong.

So, just who is Notesong's mother? One of the most revered novelists in Thailand: Rampaipan Suwarnasarn Srisopark, or better known by her pen name, Sopark Suwarn. Over her storied career, she's been honored by royalty and generated a nearly cult following for her books, some of which documented her family's lives as they moved from Thailand to the United States in 1973. The ministry of education in her native country even used her work as a way to help broaden the understanding of American culture beyond the glamor of Hollywood.

"I have been inspired by many people through the years, including my parents, who have impacted what I write, how I write, and even how I research," said Suwarnasarn Srisopark. "But two authors I have always

really loved are Laura Ingalls Wilder and Pearl S. Buck."

Her work (which includes more than 120 books) ranges from historical fiction pieces to comedy, romance to travel documentaries, and even psychology. Suwarnasarn Srisopark's books have even been turned into television shows. As the **Bangkok Post** noted, "Among her dozens of novels, **Fah Jarod Sai** is her most famous: the story of romantic and patriotic love set in the desert of a fictional Arab kingdom. This classic has been published 23 times and became a popular TV drama series twice, and even a Broadway-style musical in 2007."

The insatiable need to learn and to share her discoveries, thoughts, and imaginative ideas drove Suwarnasarn Srisopark from an early age. Born in Bangkok, she began writing at age 8 and entered a writing contest at age 11, winning an award for her short story, "My Best Friend," which was published in the **Sarn Seri**, a daily paper. Decades later, her success is world-renowned. In 2014, she was honored as a National Artist of Thailand in the Field of Literature.

After she and her husband met in Vienna, Austria, in 1965 while both were studying at the University of Vienna, they moved back to Thailand to start a family, and eventually immigrated to the United States with their two young daughters, Chitsupang Srisopark Weekes and Apiromraj Srisopark Roslansky. Their youngest daughter, Notesong, was born in Kansas. The family's adventures served as content for some of Suwarnasarn Srisopark's most popular works, in particular, "**Joht Mai Thung Khun Yai**" ("Letters to Grandma" – her mother), which told stories about her daughters' childhood follies written from their young perspectives.

But as much as Notesong loved her mother's work, there was always just one piece of the puzzle that seemed to be missing.

"I took first year Thai at UW–Madison with Professor Bob Bickner more than 20 years ago. It is such a challenging, complex language. So, I had never been able to actually read her books because they're in Thai," explained Notesong. "I speak and understand it fluently, but I forgot how to read in Thai! So while I knew what she was writing about, I'd heard her stories, she had bounced storylines off of my sisters and me, I wanted to be able to actually translate the books about our family and the novels that she had penned."

Enter UW–Madison (again). Over the summer of 2017, Notesong revisited her Badger roots to jump-start her plan to translate her mother's books. She took an intensive eight-week course through SEASSI, the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute, to relearn how to read in Thai.

"I can't believe how intense SEASSI was," said Notesong. "It is going to take me a while to translate my mother's books because of the artistic level of her writing, but without a doubt, this program is going to be the reason

I'm able to undertake such a wonderful project."

Suwarnasarn Srisopark said she's thrilled and touched by her daughter's desire to not only read her work, but to invest so deeply in it so that it can be shared for generations to come.

"It means so much to have my children know what I do, understand my passion, and care enough to find new ways to interact with it and share it," said Suwarnasarn Srisopark. "It's not just for my daughters, but my grandchildren. My work covers many genres, but so much of it is a history of our family, essentially. They'll have the opportunity to understand their family's journey in such a unique way."

For Notesong, the journey of translating her mother's work may take time. But it's a project she considers a gift.

"I know it seems like translating her books might be a gift to her," explained Notesong. "But really, it goes both ways. To think my children could walk through Memorial Library and find her books, and be able to read them, that is truly a gift to us."



"I have been inspired by many people through the years, including my parents, who have impacted what I write, how I write, and even how I research."

- Rampaipan Suwarnasarn Srisopark



Rampaipan Suwarnasarn Srisopark with two of her three daughters, Chitsupang Srisopark Weekes (L), and Notesong Srisopark Thompson (R).



# The Long Journey Home

By Pamela O'Donnell



On August 21, 2017, when most of the country was looking to the skies in anticipation of a solar eclipse, it seemed appropriate to recount the adventures of a sci-fi novel that has taken 42 years to return to its “home planet,” College Library. Checked out in the spring of 1975 by one Gordon “Rabbit” Dean, *The Alien Way* by Gordon R. Dickson features a character, Jase Barchar, who attended UW–Madison (“for a moment the sharply pitched streets and wooded campus at Madison rose in Jase’s mind’s eye, and then vanished”). Jase is the only man in contact with the Ruml, creatures bent

on the conquest of the Earth; his mind is inextricably linked to that of Kator, leader of the expedition that would spearhead the invasion.

Although Dean reports having read *The Alien Way* “countless times,” he remembered his first time reading it was on campus. “I do know that the hours I spent reading it the first time in the Physics building led me to walk home past some tennis courts where I met the woman who would become the mother of my oldest child. I suppose that is why I kept the book. It brought me such good memories.” Indeed, after dropping out of UW–Madison, moving to Key West to work on shrimp boats (where he lived next door to Jimmy Buffet), and a subsequent career with a marine construction firm on the Great Lakes, Dean is surprised that he held onto the book through at least a dozen moves in the past forty years. He said, “I have bought, read, and given away literally hundreds if not thousands of books. Every time I moved, I purged books, but through it all, this book survived and stayed with me.”

This past fall Dean, who now lives in Michigan, reached out to the UW–Madison Libraries about coordinating this book’s return mission. Kerry Kresse, appropriately enough the Physics and Astronomy Librarian, responded by saying we would welcome the novel home. The book survived re-entry and arrived at College Library. The Collection Management Team is working on determining its final disposition.

But many thanks to Dean for a great story on the power of stories to move us and provide a lifetime of inspiration. (No overdue fines have been imposed.)

## A Message from the Friends President

Dear Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries,

Earlier this fall, I was participating in my bi-annual “first night of the Friends Book Sale” ritual—which consists of helping people who are browsing the book sale, while at the same time keeping one eye open for books that I absolutely need to add to the stacks at home. (I escaped only \$32 poorer, and considered myself lucky...) For me, and for many of you, the Friends Book Sale is one of the best things that the Friends do—and we expect that to continue for many years. It’s not the only thing that we do, however. The Friends help the Libraries in multiple ways and are always looking for new ways to assist.

The heart of the Friends’ mission is helping the Libraries achieve their needs, particularly in acquisitions. With tight budgets, targeted allocations from Friends’ funds can make an important difference in the collections. The amount that the Friends raise through the Book Sale and through donor gifts is used to assist with these needs. The Friends help with projects such as a substantial recent grant supporting an oral history of the book arts at UW–Madison. This will be a collaboration among UW Libraries Special Collections, the UW–Archives, and the Kohler Art Library. The Friends also approve funds for bibliographers to travel to targeted destinations and collect, on the spot, locally published material

to round out important national and international collections in the humanities and social sciences.

Gifts to the Friends’ fund also support our grants to libraries and scholars programs. We have an active Grants Committee that works with library acquisitions staff on prioritizing funding needs. That conversation can get pretty lively. Grants Committee members—some with a background as library staff, others as UW faculty members—have strong areas of interest and a distinct lack of shyness in expressing their opinions. This give-and-take ensures that Friends’ grants support a wide range of interests and needs.

There is room for more people to become involved with the Friends! If you’re reading this and you have an interest in helping the UW Libraries, then please—call the Friends office and let us know. We value donations, but we value participation and engagement as well. If you’re interested in helping at the book sale or with other events, or perhaps with hosting a visiting scholar, we’d like to hear from you.

With thanks,

Michael Chaim



## Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries Board Members 2017-2018

- |                              |                                 |
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| Al Friedman                  | Libby Theune, Administrator     |
|                              | (Not pictured: Genesha Murray)  |



# Review of Fall 2017 Events

- TIM TYSON**, author of *The Blood of Emmett Till*  
September 28, 2017
- STEVE & BEN NADLER**, the author and the  
illustrator of *Heretics! The Wondrous (and  
Dangerous) Beginnings of Modern Philosophy*  
October 18, 2017
- FRIENDS SEMIANNUAL BOOK SALE**  
Wednesday, November 1 – Saturday, November  
4, 2017
- RICK PIFER**, Author of *The Great War Comes to  
Wisconsin*  
November 30, 2017

## Spring 2018 Events

- FRIENDS SEMIANNUAL BOOK SALE**  
Wednesday, April 11 – Saturday, April 14, 2018  
Memorial Library, Room 116



Welcome to our new  
Friends Administrator,  
Libby Theune!



Timothy Tyson (Duke University, the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill and previous UW–Madison professor) talked about his book, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, on September 28, 2017. He discussed how the nation’s current struggles with police brutality and Black Lives Matter continue to be energized by the plight of Emmett Till and the ensuing civil rights events of the 1950s.

## Grant to Scholar

Justin Ritzinger spent three weeks last summer sifting through papers in the Holmes Welch Collection, held at Memorial Library, as part of the UW–Madison Libraries East Asian Collection. Ritzinger, an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Miami, investigated questions surrounding Welch and his work with the help of a grant from the Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries.

Holmes Hinckley Welch was a founder of the study of modern Chinese Buddhism. Three of his works, authored in the late 1960s and early 1970s, made Welch the primary source on modern Chinese Buddhism through the end of the 20th century.

Using these precious resources found nowhere else made scans of more than four hundred documents and took notes on at least a hundred more.

Although Welch’s work no longer dominates the field as it once did, Ritzinger thinks it is “critical that we reckon with his legacy.” He hopes to answer questions such as: Who were Holmes Welch’s informants? Who was Holmes Welch himself? How did his personal and professional biography affect his work?

Friends of the Libraries Grants to Scholars funds visiting scholars with particular research needs in the UW–Madison Libraries. The Friends award several grants-in-aid annually, each of which is generally for a two to four week stay. The grant program began in 1992. Recipients include faculty members as well as doctoral candidates from the United States and other countries. The program is made possible by donations and by the Schewe endowment.

October 4, 2017

Dear Friends,

I am writing to express my appreciation to the Friends for your generous 2016 Schewe award to the Preservation Department. I thought you might be interested in the ways we put your funds to work:

A gently used Minter Ultrasonic Welder/Encapsulator was purchased with funds from our first Schewe grant. The second grant allowed us to bring in the encapsulator’s inventor/manufacture (William Minter) to set it up and calibrate it to “like-new” status. Having the welder in the department has saved Conservation Lab staff a tremendous amount of time and permitted the encapsulation of fragile maps, century-old documents, and an important World War I era newspaper from Special Collections. In addition, exhibit materials have been encapsulated for protection and ease of display.

Conservation work on *The Continental Times* (Berlin, Germany, 1905-1919) newspaper was begun with funding from our first Schewe award and continued under the second award. After preservation and digitization were complete, the newspaper was housed in custom-made boxes and returned to Special Collections. You may view the digital version online: <http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/History.ContinentalTimes>.

Schewe funding also afforded us the opportunity to purchase an early-twentieth-century Jacques board shear, in very good condition and at a good price. This classic piece of equipment allows easier cutting of the heavy-weight book-boards essential to Conservation Lab work.

In addition, the Schewe award provided crucial funding allowing us to hire skilled conservation technicians to perform much of the work described above. Over the course of several years in the Lab, our students also master many procedures and refine their abilities to complete conservation work.

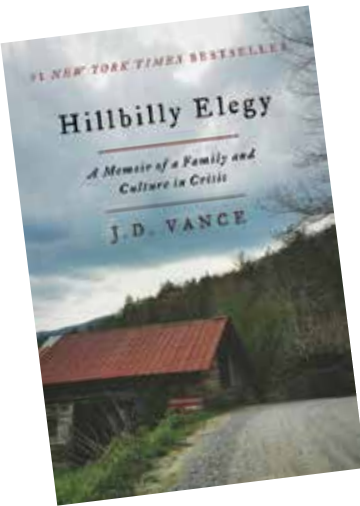
Preservation Department staff are very appreciative of the Friends’ interest in the preservation of our physical collections. The Schewe awards and other Friends Preservation Grants given to the Libraries over many years have contributed greatly to our ability to preserve our circulating collections and our special collections. Your support has made a real contribution to the longevity of important research materials. Many thanks!

Andrea Rolich, Preservation Librarian  
Memorial Library

## The Schewe Endowment Fund

In 2006, Madison bibliophile Douglas Schewe left 75% of his estate, nearly \$1 million, to the Friends of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries. He did so to encourage the campus and the larger community to read print books and to allow the Friends to host speakers that would continue to bring visibility and scholarship to the university libraries. With the annual interest from this fund, the Friends have been able to expand activities and benefit many areas within the General Library System. Most recently, the Friends allocated funds to support collection preservation, collection development, and lectures.

# HILLBILLY ELEGY



By Kari Knutson

People have been talking about J.D. Vance’s **Hillbilly Elegy** ever since it was published in 2016. The book was the focus of the Go Big Read Keynote Event in October 2017, at Memorial Union’s Shannon Hall.

A panel from the University of Wisconsin–Madison shared expertise on the book’s themes. Due to unforeseen scheduling difficulties, J.D. Vance was not able to visit campus. The panelists included Kathy Cramer, author of **“The Politics of Resentment,”** who spoke about politics and cultural anger; Katherine Magnuson, who discussed poverty and stress in childhood; and Aleksandra Zgierska, who talked about addiction, chronic pain, and opioids.

“This book gives us a very personal view of the cultural context in which J.D. Vance grew up,” said Cramer, who directs the Morgridge Institute for Public Service. “I’m looking forward to discussions about how his observations fit with broader cultural and political trends in the United States, and will offer some alternative ways of looking at the white working class.”

Vance grew up in Middletown, Ohio, and the Appalachian town of Jackson, Kentucky. He enlisted in the Marine Corps after high school and served in Iraq. He went on to graduate from Ohio State University and Yale Law School and became a principal at a leading Silicon Valley investment firm, and a contributing writer to the **National Review**. He recently started a nonprofit group called **Our Ohio Renewal**, an organization that describes itself as dedicated to addressing the state’s opioid crisis and bringing high-quality employment and educational opportunities to Ohioans.

In the book, Vance tells the story of what it feels like to be born into a region and class that has experienced serious economic disruption. He shares his family’s story,

starting with his grandparents’ move from Appalachia to Ohio following World War II in hopes of escaping poverty. But that escape proved difficult, especially for Vance’s mother.

Ron Howard is directing and producing a movie adaptation of the book, which was a **New York Times** best-seller.

“In the genre of memoir, this book contains the most robust list of complex contemporary themes I’ve seen in my many years of reviewing titles for the program,” said Go Big Read Program Lead, Sheila Stoeckel. “It’s been fascinating to hear from many readers who are reflecting on their lived experiences related to themes in the book.”

Campus is already involved in the discussion. More than 5,000 copies of the book were distributed to incoming first-year and transfer students at Convocation. Additionally, there are 145 course sections registered to use the book in their classes. UW–Madison police staff are reading and discussing the book, and so are students in the Odyssey Project, which offers humanities classes for adult students facing economic barriers to college. More than 500 Badger Volunteers used the book for their fall orientation. The book has also been popular among many department/unit groups who are using it for discussions of diversity and inclusion.

An audience question-and-answer session followed the panel discussion, which was moderated by Professor Russ Castronovo, whose own research focuses on politics and critical citizenship.

“The hope is that people might use the book’s insights, and also its shortcomings, to work toward a more complex and nuanced understanding of education and social class in the U.S.,” Castronovo said.

The keynote event was live-streamed and is archived at [gobigread.wisc.edu](http://gobigread.wisc.edu).

The Go Big Read program is an initiative of the Office of the Chancellor, sponsored by many campus units, including the Libraries.

# Interlibrary Loan: We Love Sharing

By Libby Gartland

The University of Wisconsin–Madison’s Interlibrary Loan (ILL) is a resource foundation for UW–Madison students, faculty, and staff to get free access to materials needed for various coursework and research initiatives. The UW–Madison Libraries consistently rank at the top among peer institutions with respect to supplementing local collections in order to meet the needs of the University community.

“The UW–Madison Libraries have been leaders in resource sharing for many years. The demands for lending library materials from our extensive collections as well as borrowing from other institutions continues to rise,” said Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian Ed Van Gemert. “We depend upon institutional partnerships for timely and efficient resource sharing. Interlibrary Loan staff deserve credit for continuously improving the design of the systems and the work flows needed to make the process seamless and efficient for the user. The improvements made over the years have been significant and very much appreciated by library patrons.”

The system allows individuals to request materials, books, articles, book chapters, or even music and video items from sources outside of the UW–Madison or UW System collections. Individuals eligible for ILL services can simply access the Interlibrary Loan website, put their request for specific materials in, and wait for them to arrive.

“Interlibrary Loan serves as a key bridge between students and faculty on our campus and library collections around the country,” noted Doug Way, Associate University

Librarian for Collections and Research Services. “As libraries increasingly partner with other institutions around coordinated access to information resources, Interlibrary Loan will become even more important.”

The services that ILL brings to the UW–Madison campus are a great tool in accessing information on a large scale. ILL helps to make the world of information feel a lot closer to home for our students, faculty, and staff.



“Interlibrary Loan serves as a key bridge between students and faculty on our campus and library collections around the country.”

- Doug Way



UW Badgerloop

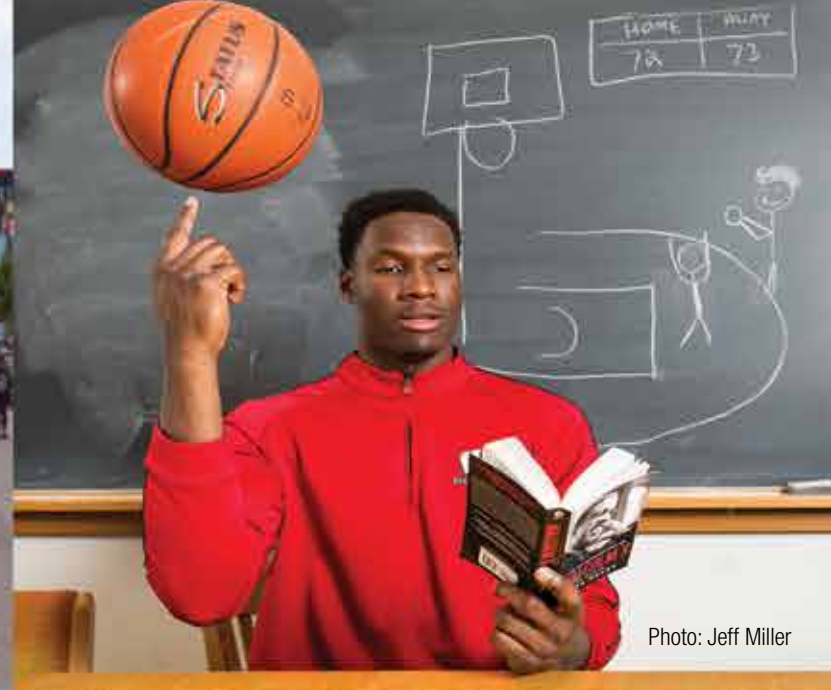
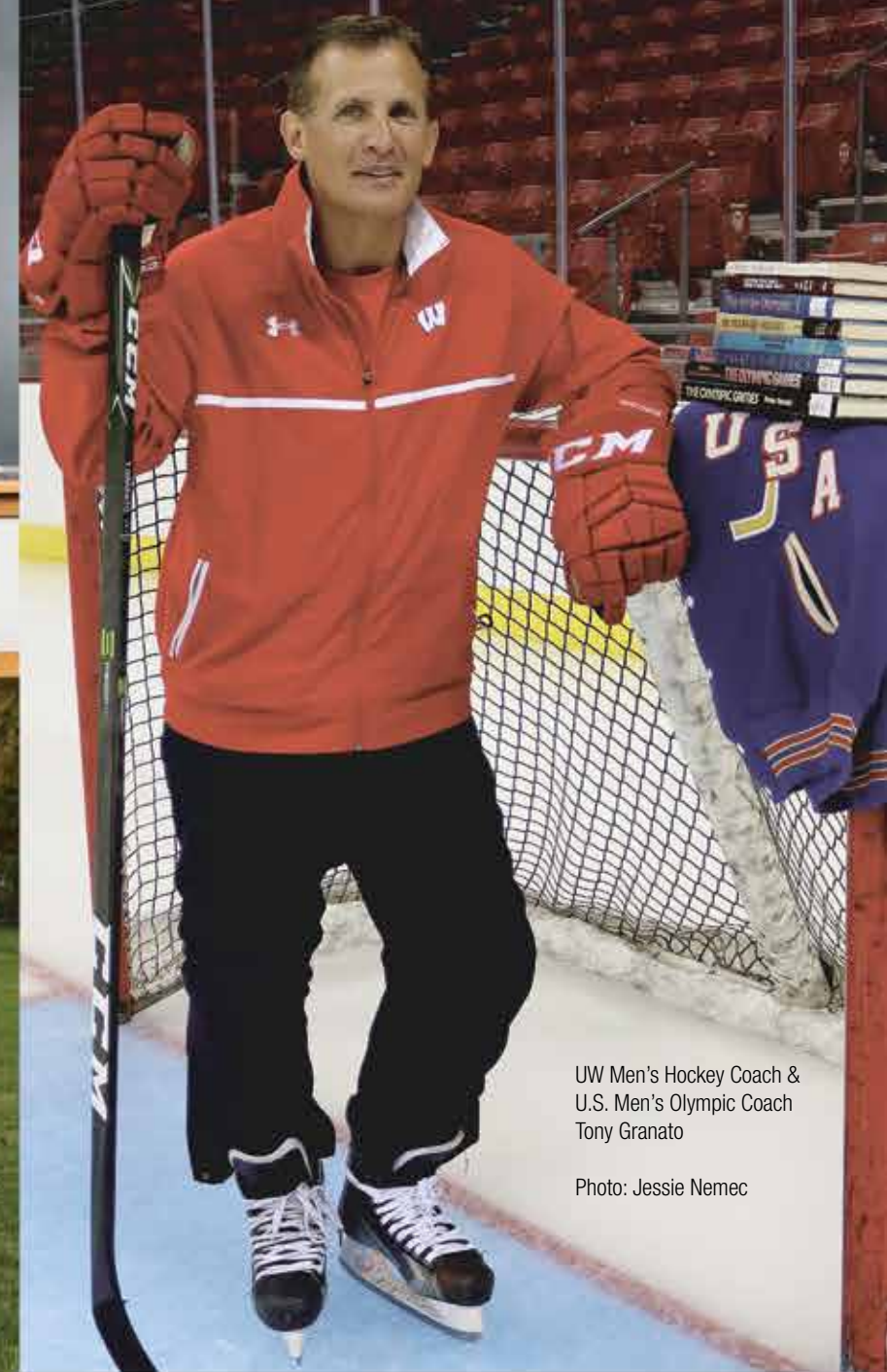


Photo: Jeff Miller



UW Men's Hockey Coach &  
U.S. Men's Olympic Coach  
Tony Granato

Photo: Jessie Nemec



Alumni Park™ Sculpture—Well Red by Douwe Blumberg



UW Women's Hockey Photo: Jessie Nemec



Photo: Jessie Nemec

# READ



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Madison, Wisconsin 53706

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May 17, 2018



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