

MU Libraries Library Connections

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Pulitzer Prize Winner to Speak at 10th Annual Library Society Dinner

Marilynne Robinson will be the featured speaker at the Library Society Dinner at 6 p.m. April 11, 2014, in the Ellis Library Grand Reading Room. The renowned author received the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for fiction for *Gilead*, the story of a dying country pastor who records his thoughts for his young son. Her novels and collections of essays have won numerous awards, including the 2009 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction (formerly called Orange Prize for Fiction) and the 2012 National Humanities Medal, awarded by President Barack Obama, whose list on Facebook of his favorite books includes *Gilead*.

Widely regarded as among the greatest living novelists, Robinson has been acclaimed by the *The Paris Review* as "one of the defining American writers of our time." She is praised as much for her essays as she is for her novels, addressing

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Marilynne Robinson, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction and the National Humanities Medal, will speak at the Library Society Dinner April 11. Photo provided by Marilynne Robinson.

Father Eric Hollas to Speak About Saint John's Bible at Friends of the Libraries Luncheon

Father Eric Hollas will speak at the Friends of the Libraries Luncheon at noon April 12, 2014, in Memorial Union's Stotler Lounge. Hollas has been a faculty member in the School of Theology-Seminary at Saint John's University in Minnesota since 1980. From 1993 to 2002, he was executive director of the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library at the university. He was instrumental in initiating the

Saint John's Bible project to produce the first handwritten and illuminated Bible in more than 500 years and has spoken about the project at venues throughout the United States. He received a bachelor's degree in history from Princeton, completed seminary studies at Saint John's School of Theology-Seminary and received a doctorate in medieval studies from Yale.

Read more about the Saint John's Bible on Page 6.

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Calendar of Events

APRIL 11

Library Society Dinner

Keynote speaker Marilynne

Robinson

6 to 9:30 p.m.

Ellis Library Grand Reading Room

APRIL 12

Friends of the Libraries Meeting

8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Reynolds Alumni Center

MU Libraries Donor-Appreciation Ceremony

10:30 a.m. to noon

Ellis Library Colonnade

Friends of the Libraries Luncheon

Keynote speaker Father Eric Hollas

Noon to 2:30 p.m.

Stotler Lounge, Memorial Union

MU Libraries and the One Mizzou Comprehensive Campaign

Access to scholarly databases, journals and books is central to the mission of the MU Libraries. A healthy library budget is essential to carrying out that mission. However, the University of Missouri's budget for the library is approximately half that of other members of the Association of American Universities (AAU), a fact that presents a daily challenge to our library staff as they stretch dollars to meet the needs of students and faculty.

The cost of online academic resources is often priced based on campus enrollment, which means that a database for study or research at MU is significantly more expensive than the same database at Southeast Missouri State or even the University of Missouri-Kansas City. As the state's flagship institution and Missouri's only public member of the prestigious

AAU, we must ensure that our faculty and students have access to resources that are available at other universities within the state, as well as at our peer institutions across the country.

During the One Mizzou Comprehensive Campaign, MU Libraries hopes to raise at least \$10 million in private gifts to guarantee that our collections, services and facilities continue to meet the research and scholarship needs of our users. If you are able to participate in this historic campaign, we hope you will consider a gift to support our libraries. A gift to MU Libraries benefits every school and college, every faculty member, and every student at Mizzou. To find out more about making a gift to MU Libraries, contact Matt Gaunt at 573-884-8645 or gauntm@missouri.edu.

Pulitzer Prize Winner to Speak at 10th Annual Library Society Dinner

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issues of individualism and community, of faith and politics, and of society and public education.

Born in Idaho in 1943, she completed her undergraduate studies at Pembroke College and earned a doctorate in English at the University of Washington. She now teaches creative writing at the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop. We are pleased to have Marilynne Robinson as speaker for the 10th annual Library Society Dinner April 11.

Where in the MU Libraries?



Do you know where this picture was taken in the MU Libraries? Find the answer at the bottom of Page 6. Photo by Shannon Cary.

Meet the Librarian: Jeannette Pierce, Associate Director for Research and Information Services

Can you tell us a little about your background and experience and what led you to MU Libraries?

I know it is a cliché, but in my case it is true: From an early age, I knew I wanted to work in a library. Libraries filled me with a sense of awe and possibility. As a library student assistant at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, I began to fully recognize the central role librarians have in the academic life of researchers and students and decided to focus on becoming an academic librarian. After graduating with degrees in history and library science, I spent many years as a reference and history librarian. At Johns Hopkins, my position focused on ensuring the library had the books, journals and databases needed to support scholarly research and then helping students to use the collections. At Loyola University, I managed reference services and had the opportunity to work in a high-tech library and information commons that brought technology and library support together in a creative learning space. At Mizzou, I am excited about contributing to the university's tradition of excellence in teaching, research and learning. I moved here with my husband, Stephen Strohl, and our 4-year-old daughter in August 2013. We are passionate about libraries and feel incredibly fortunate to be joining the library community in Columbia.

What are some of the unique aspects of your job?

As the division head for research and information services, I work with the largest group of professional librarians in the MU Libraries. Many refer to this group as the “face” of the library because our roles are focused on creating relationships

with students and faculty. The majority of librarians in the division are subject specialists who work directly with academic programs by developing collections, meeting with upper-level classes, and working with faculty or students on special projects. The librarians in research and information services also manage all of the reference and general instructional opportunities offered by the MU Libraries. If you come to the reference desk, send a text or chat with the MU Libraries, you are probably communicating with someone in the research and information services division.

What vision do you bring for the research and information services department of the MU Libraries?

The words that best represent my vision are collaboration and community. I fundamentally believe that librarians are most successful when we actively engage in the life of the academic community that we serve. I envision librarians forming strong, strategic partnerships and academic liaison relationships that support student and faculty success. I'm also passionate about how libraries contribute to lifelong learning by creating collections, spaces and programming that inspire learning. Premier academic libraries are always evolving. I want to create a sense of excitement about how MU Libraries will evolve to meet the needs of our 21st-century users.

What single service or technology do you think has the greatest potential to change the way we deliver reference services in the future?

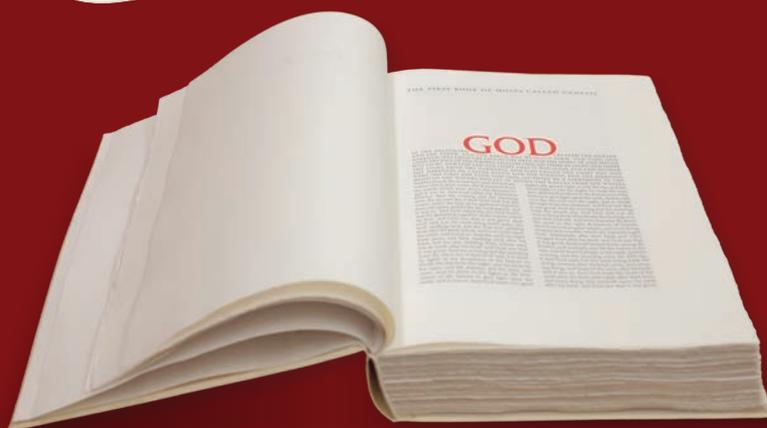
Librarians always have been on the forefront of adopting new technologies to develop services or



Jeannette Pierce is the associate director for research and information services for the MU Libraries. Photo by Stephen Strohl.

enhance existing ones. The essential goal of reference service is to connect individuals with information that is needed. Technology and all of the competing information services that technology makes accessible to the public (e.g., Google) will continue to change how librarians provide reference services. Today, people expect relevant information to be easy to find and available to them 24/7, 365 days a year. To ensure that students find the best information, reference librarians are devoting more time to supporting student learning by placing high-quality academic sources and reference services directly into the online course environments used by students both on and off campus. Our goal is for students to have the best information sources available to them when and where they need it most. Related to this goal is our commitment to teaching students how to use information critically, both in the classroom and when making life decisions. The MU Libraries have partnered with colleagues at the university to hire an e-learning librarian who will focus on keeping us all up to date with new technologies and pedagogy faculty use to support online learning.

THE
Pennyroyal Caxton
Bible



I

n July 2013, New York businessman and donor Bruce Kovner and his wife, Suze, gave a copy of the Pennyroyal Caxton Bible as a gift to the University of Missouri. The Bible is part of the MU Libraries Special Collections.

The Pennyroyal Caxton Bible is a modern King James edition containing fine art renderings by American wood-engraving master Barry Moser, whose illustrations appear in other books,

such as Pennyroyal Press' *Alice in Wonderland*. Moser is the first artist to illustrate both the Old Testament and New Testament since Gustave Doré illustrated the Le Saint Bible in 1865.

Moser worked from 1995–99 to complete the project, which contains 233 illustrations that range from traditional to interpretive. Moser described his work as a “struggle to engage not only a sacred text but also the greatest monument of our language, to grapple with typography and images befitting such sanctity

and monumentality, and to wrestle with the devils and angels that reside therein.”

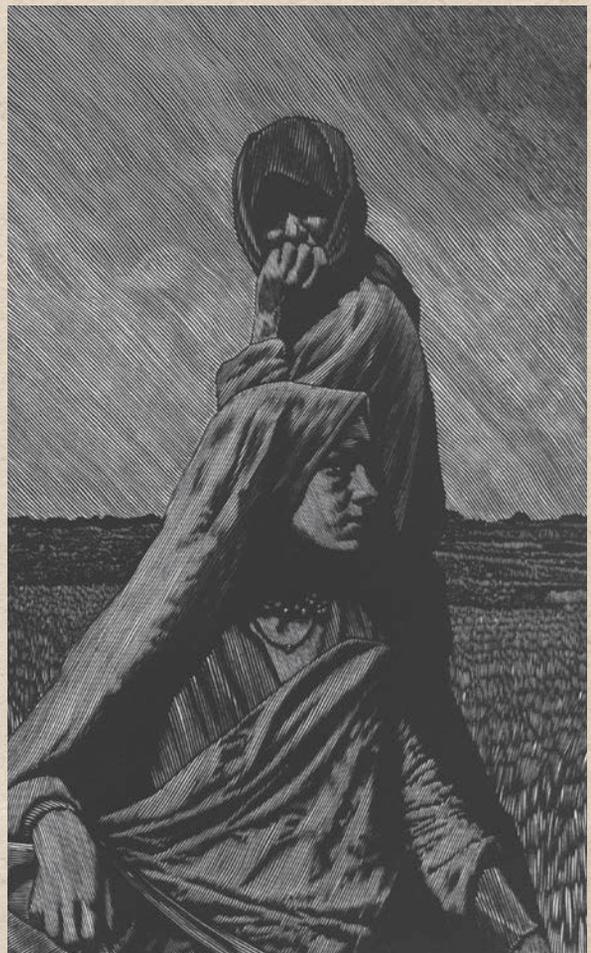
The Bible’s creation combined traditional methods and technology with their modern counterparts. The images were engraved and printed directly onto the pages. The typography is based on 16th-century letterforms, and the two-column text layout is reminiscent of earlier manuscripts, such as the Gutenberg Bible. A team of biblical, poetic, theological and linguistic scholars served as an advisory board during the process. Other craftsmen with expertise in letter cutting and typography also assisted.

The Bible is divided into two volumes. The first consists of the five books of Moses, the historical books and the books of poetry. The second contains books of prophecy and the New Testament.

Diane Morrison of Kovner Philanthropy says: “The beauty of this Bible does not rest on the illustrations alone. It is also a singular polygraphic achievement and an example of some of the finest printings of our time. Some of the paper was handmade specially for this project, and the exquisitely tooled parchment bindings are a marvel of craftsmanship.”

Pennyroyal Caxton Press is a partnership between Moser and Kovner. Kovner, educated at Harvard, is the founder of the Caxton Corp. and a leading philanthropist. A patron of the arts, he sits on the board of trustees for the Juilliard School and the New York Philharmonic Society. He also collects rare books and music manuscripts.

MU Libraries Special Collections displayed the Bible at Ellis Library in the exhibit “Verba Sacra: The Bible from Manuscript to Modern Print.” More information on the Bible is available at pennyroyalcaxton.com.



The Pennyroyal Caxton Bible includes 233 illustrations by Barry Moser, including these depicting *David in the Valley of Elah* (top) and *Ruth and Naomi on the Road to Bethlehem*.

News from the Stacks

- Mizzou alumnus and award-winning communications executive Tyrone “Ty” Christian, BA ’77, was among the honorees at the 46th annual Faculty-Alumni Awards. The Mizzou Alumni Association began the awards in 1968 to recognize alumni for accomplishments in their professional life and service to their alma mater. Christian gave the university a miniature replica of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Monument. The replica resides in Ellis Library.
- MU Libraries has partnered with the National Digital Stewardship Alliance to continue working on the digital archive. The archive, estimated to contain about 41,000 digitized items, not only preserves historic information but also allows for easy accessibility. The partnership offers grant money for new equipment and employees.
- After the 2012 drought in Missouri, a number of cracks appeared in the walls and stairways on the west side of Ellis Library. Engineers were brought in, and they made an assessment that though there was no loss of structural integrity to the building, some repairs did need to be made. Those repairs began after the fall 2013 semester and are expected to be completed by the end of the spring 2014 semester.

Saint John’s Bible Heritage Edition

The University of Missouri has received two volumes of the Saint John’s Bible Heritage Edition — the Pentateuch and Gospels and Acts — on loan for 2013–14. The library will hold a formal exhibition with framed illuminations from other volumes in April.

The Saint John’s Bible is a handwritten and illuminated Bible created with a combination of

traditional and modern technology. Teams of scholars and artists worked together in order to complete the manuscript, which consists of seven volumes and weighs 165 pounds. The Heritage Edition is a fine art replica of the original Bible.

The library would like to purchase a copy of the Heritage Edition and is currently accepting private donations.



Visitors to Ellis Library Special Collections and Rare Books view the Saint John’s Bible. This Bible, which is on loan to MU for 2013–2014, is a reproduction of a handwritten and illuminated Bible that was commissioned by Saint John’s Abbey and Saint John’s University in 1998. Pictured from left to right: Carole Patterson; Ann Covington, JD ’77; Barbara Schlemeier; Audrey Walsworth, BJ ’56; and Hank Waters, BA ’51. Photo by Shannon Cary.

Where in the MU Libraries?

Answer: Pictured is the James B. Nutter Family Information Commons in Ellis Library.

James B. Nutter grew up in the Midwest. After his family lost their home during the Great Depression, he swore he would one day buy a house and help others do the same. Nutter served in the U.S. Army and earned a business degree at MU in 1949 before starting the James B. Nutter & Co. mortgage business. Focused on customer service and consumer advocacy, James B. Nutter & Co. became one of the largest privately owned mortgage banking

firms in the United States.

Nutter is a generous philanthropist, donating to organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Boy Scouts of America and St. Luke’s Hospital. He also has assisted in preserving historical sites and is a committed political activist, inspired by knowing President Harry S. Truman as a young man. Nutter has fought discriminatory business practices through his company policy and political campaigning. The Kansas City, Mo., branch of the NAACP awarded him the Harold L. Holliday Sr. Civil Rights Award in 2012.

Fall Events in the MU Libraries



A young Tiger fan shows off her decorated pumpkin at the MU Libraries Homecoming Open House Oct. 26, 2013. Photo by Shannon Cary.

Donald L. Flora, BS IE '66, stands next to the plaque outside one of the new study rooms in the Engineering Library and Technology Commons (ELTC). Flora and his wife, Janet M. Stallmeyer, made a donation, along with the College of Engineering Foundation, that allowed for the creation of four new study rooms in the ELTC. The rooms were dedicated Oct. 18, 2013. Photo by Shannon Cary.



A Civil War re-enactor talks to children from the J. W. "Blind" Boone Community Center's after-school program as part of Ellis Library's "Divided Loyalties" exhibit, which ran from Aug. 12 to Oct. 26, 2013. It included visual exhibits, documents drawn from state archives, artifacts from the Boone County Historical Society, speeches and other activities. The exhibit, held during the Civil War's 150th anniversary, was intended to remind Missourians of the past's importance and its continuing impact. Photo by Cindy Cotner.

IN MEMORIAM

Nell Damerval Lafferre, Arts '55, of Brentwood, Tenn., June 29, 2013, at 77. She is survived by her husband, Tom, BS ME '56. For many years, Lafferre was a supporter of the MU Libraries, serving as a member of the MU Libraries Comprehensive Campaign Committee and Library Society. The Lafferres gave generously to both the libraries and the College of Engineering during the For All We Call Mizzou Campaign. Engineering Building East was renamed Thomas and Nell Lafferre Hall in their honor.

Gail Finch Hubbell, BA '61, of Columbia Nov. 11, 2013, at 75. Hubbell was involved in several activities and volunteering groups, including the King's Daughters, Delta Delta Delta, Boone County Medical Society Alliance, the Friends of Music board of directors, the First Monday Book Club, the Missouri United Methodist Church Breakfast Group, the Last Wednesday Bridge Club and the Monday Mahjong Group. She and her husband of 30 years, Ira, were longtime members of the Friends of the MU Libraries, and she served on the Friends Council. She is survived by her husband, her son, two brothers, two grandsons and a stepson. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Tamara Sickal Atkins, BA '84, MA '89.



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