

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF GEISEL LIBRARY

# VERSO

SUMMER / 2019 / VOL. 1, NO. 1



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Preview to the Annual Book Sale on Thursday, October 17, 2019  
Book Sale runs 10/18—10/20
- 6th Annual Celebration of Research and Scholarship on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. in the DeCiccio Reading Room  
<http://geiselguides.anselm.edu/scholarship>
- Annual Day Planner  
December 2019
- Invited Speaker Event  
April 2020

Visit our Friends of the Geisel Library Website for details and up to date information:

<https://www.anselm.edu/geisel-library/services/friends-library>

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Whether you are a returning Friend of Geisel Library or joining us anew, we are thrilled to have you. Geisel staff are very excited about dusting off and updating our program which reaches out into the community hoping to interest and involve library users and supporters – like YOU. Please enjoy the contents of this first newsletter that showcases and highlights activities and accomplishments of the four divisions – Library Systems and Technical Services, Reference and Instructional Services, Archives and Special Collections, and Collections and User Services – within Geisel. During the past several years, we have made noteworthy improvements to our building while adding resources and services. Additionally, we have welcomed some very talented new colleagues while bidding farewell to a number who served the Library and the College very well. It has been a rich period for programming as well. Geisel staff work with students, faculty, staff from divisions including athletics and the multicultural center, and most recently librarian, civic, and religious leaders from Goffstown to take programming beyond the campus. From music to poetry, to faculty and student scholarship to discussing challenging social issues – the Library is an active place.

Institutionally, Saint Anselm College prepared for and received a team of peers for a three day visit in our pursuit for re-accreditation for the next ten years. Saint Anselm remains a very highly regarded liberal arts college and Geisel Library plays an important role in the lives of our students.

Finally, I'd like to end this letter by sharing that July 15, 2019 marked the first day of the presidency of Dr. Joseph Favazza at the College. The entire Geisel staff looks forward to meeting our new president and hosting him for a visit as the academic year begins. We look forward to meeting and hosting each of you as well.

~ Charles Getchell, College Librarian

## NEW FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBER BENEFITS

Geisel Library has been hard at work revamping and reimagining the Friends of the Library program. Since its inception, this vibrant and active community of supporters has been engaged in library events and activities and has supported the library's mission of encouraging discovery and inspiring curiosity by connecting our community to scholarly resources and expertise in a welcoming learning environment. We are sure that you will be pleased with the work we have done to revitalize this important group.

In an effort to demonstrate the vital role that the Friends group plays in supporting the mission and spirit of the library, we are excited to share a new slate of membership benefits. In addition to the annual day planner, your membership dues also entitle you to a biannual Friends newsletter, *Verso*; invitations to special events, such as invited speakers, the annual Celebration of Research & Scholarship, and Exhibit opening talks; an invitation to the library's annual book sale preview day sale; and a Friends library card with borrowing privileges (three books for two weeks and two DVDs for one week; renewals possible; materials subject to overdue fines).

To take advantage of these benefits simply renew your membership using the enclosed form. You will then start receiving invitations to various library events and your Friends library card will be sent to you with the January newsletter or you can pick it up at the library's Circulation Desk to immediately take advantage of borrowing privileges.

Here's to a full year of Friends activities; we are looking forward to seeing you at one of our events or when checking out materials from the library.



## News

### New Archives & Special Collections Suite and Staff

2017 brought big changes to the Archives & Special Collections department. A new suite was built on the upper level, featuring an office, work room, and a reading room. Additionally, Brother Ignatius Membrino, O.S.B. joined the library staff as the Archives' Assistant to work on special projects supporting rare books and collections. If you are interested in visiting the archives, contact Keith Chevalier, College Archivist, for an appointment, archives@anselm.edu or 603-656-6197.

### Technology in the Library

Our users benefit from the panoply of hardware we help install, configure, and maintain, including desktop computers for community access and librarian service desks, laptops for library classroom instruction sessions, walk-up scanning/digitizing stations and iPad lookup stands, electronic e-poster displays, and related peripherals such as barcode scanners for inventory processing.

### Honoring our Graduating Student Workers

To recognize the valuable contribution that student workers make to the services and operations of Geisel Library, graduating seniors that have worked in the Library for four semesters in the last two years are able to select a book to be added to the our collection.

Each book added to the collection contains a bookplate with the student's name, their year of graduation, and a statement of appreciation.

To view this year's and past years' selections simply type in the keywords "Student Assistant Selection" in our library catalog. Without their hard work and service, we would struggle to properly serve the students, staff, faculty, and monastic community of Saint Anselm College.

## DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY ARTICLES

### LIBRARY SYSTEMS AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

The library Systems and Technical Services department staff together perform a wide spectrum of services that help our community discover, access, and use our growing and complex library collections. We achieve this by organizing newly acquired publications for various Geisel collections, by maintaining descriptive records for each new title or set, and by managing public online database access to these records and publications. Further, we help integrate this catalog with myriad other library subscription research tools and services, and we provide significant help in customizing library computer hardware and electronic devices. All of this together aids in the finding, displaying and/or accessing of these materials, including electronic books and online or streaming publications. The new library materials we help Catalog, organize, and end-process for our users include paper and electronic books & periodicals, feature films and documentaries, state and federal documents, and all manner of scholarship, research and/or recreational publications that support our curriculum or otherwise benefit our community. One place to begin directly exploring what titles can be found at Geisel Library is our basic catalog search page residing at: <https://library.anselm.edu/>

### REFERENCE AND INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Our team of Reference & Instruction librarians collaborate with faculty to custom-tailor library instruction through the library's Research and Information Literacy Instruction Program. The program is structured to promote the cultivation of information literacy, a college-wide learning outcome, starting with foundational skills in the freshman year and progressing toward advanced discipline-specific skills in the senior year. We work with students 1:1 at the reference desk, through research appointments, in the classroom, and online. In addition to supporting their academic endeavors, we also seek to provide much needed stress relief through games and promotions. Students love our therapy dog visits, scheduled in coordination with the King Edward Society student group.



### FRANCO-AMERICAN COLLECTIONS, MONSIGNOR WILFRID H. PARADIS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Msgr. Wilfrid H. Paradis Archives & Special Collections department, located on the upper level of the Geisel Library, is named for the late Monsignor Wilfrid Paradis, a graduate from the Class of 1943 and friend of the library. Currently we are processing a Franco-American archival collection originally collected by a fraternal benefits association. Through the generosity of Richard Lavalliere, a local businessman and advocate for preserving our book and manuscript collections on the Franco-American experience, we are able to support a part-time processing archivist. The Franco-American archives include a variety of materials on a number of formats including videotapes of a French language public access television show from the 1980s through the 1990s produced in Manchester; manuscripts of the writer Henri d'Arles (nom de plume of Fr. Henri Beaudé); and news clipping files from the many New England French language newspapers organized by subjects. To date we have inventoried approximately 600 cubic feet of materials from the 19th through the 21st centuries. This summer we will begin building a collections database as well as work with the University of Maine system and Assumption College on a Franco-American digitization project.

### COLLECTIONS AND USER SERVICES

The Collections and User Services department completed a number of collection relocation activities this past year. The most dramatic move impacted our oversize book collection, a collection that is dominated by beautiful and striking art books. We moved this collection from a back corner in our lower level to brand new custom shelving, built by the Saint Anselm College carpentry team, which lines the atrium on the upper level. This collection is now a showpiece, with this increased level of visibility translating into higher circulation rates for this collection. We also relocated our reference collection, again with the help of custom shelving from our skilled carpenters. The reference collection now beautifully hugs the walls of our main level atrium area, setting a scholarly, research-focused tone for the library. Lastly, we have reimagined our government documents collections by centrally locating all materials received due to our participation in the Federal Depository Library Program, in one Government Documents collection on the lower level of the library. As a result, this collection serves as an important method of access and discovery for all federally published materials in the library.



Saint Anselm College  
**GEISEL LIBRARY**

100 Saint Anselm Drive  
Manchester, NH 03102

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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## **MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS**

Your July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020, \$20.00 membership dues include:

- Biannual Friends newsletter, *Verso*
- Annual day planner
- Invitations to special events, such as invited speakers, the annual Celebration of Research & Scholarship, exhibit opening talks, and a preview to the annual book sale
- Friends library card with borrowing privileges

See our website for more details: <https://www.anselm.edu/geisel-library/services/friends-library>

Don't forget to mail back your membership form to take advantage of these exclusive benefits. Contact us at 603-641-7365 or [geiselfriends@anselm.edu](mailto:geiselfriends@anselm.edu) with questions.