



Visions

NEWSLETTER OF THE DREW UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

ISSUE NO. 35, SPRING 2014

DREW.EDU/LIBRARY

FACULTY EXCITEMENT OVER GIFT FROM POET MAXINE KUMIN

At the height of autumn color this past October, Dean of Libraries Andrew Scrimgeour, drove to south central New Hampshire to meet Maxine Kumin, the renowned poet and former Poet Laureate of the United States. She had decided to give her poetry library and other volumes of literature to Drew. Knowing that the dean had an interest in seeing the libraries of writers and scholars, not in boxes, but on shelves while in actual use, she invited him to “the farm” to browse in the books and tour the mountain pastures that gave rise to many of her poems.

After his visit, he drove through downtown Concord and passed the main public library. As brilliant as the maple trees on the street was a huge banner blanketing the wall by the main entrance. It proclaimed: “Concord Reads Maxine Kumin.” Scrimgeour smiled and thought, “And Drew University reads Maxine Kumin too!”

Kumin died on February 6. Her library will come to Drew in late April. Most of the books will become part of the circulating collection. She had previously made sure that the Library had copies of all of her published work.

The Drew community is delighted with Kumin’s generous and thoughtful gift. Two faculty reflections follow.

Patrick Phillips, Associate Professor of English. I was very excited to learn that the writer Maxine Kumin has decided to give her personal library of poetry to Drew. Kumin is a major figure in contemporary poetry, and the author of 17 books of poems, as well as many novels, essay collections and children’s books. Among her many honors are the 1972 Pulitzer Prize and the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award for Excellence.



Kumin’s farm in Warner, New Hampshire

From 1981 to 1982 she served as Poet Laureate of the United States.

To write well is to apprentice oneself to the past, and Kumin’s library will make that possible for generations of writers at

Drew. This gift greatly strengthens our holdings in poetry, and will provide vital resources for students in the English department, the creative writing program

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ACADEMIC COMMONS TO RESHAPE SERVICES IN THE LIBRARY

Change is coming to the main floor of the Library—a new look and a new service model. At the present time, students must go to offices and labs located in several buildings for basic academic services. By next fall that will no longer be the case. Those services will soon be close neighbors in the Library.

Plans are being created to bring the Writing Center, instructional services from University Technology, INTO’s academic services (Drew’s new partner for international students) and perhaps others to the Library, where they will collaborate with each other and the

Library’s Reference and Research Services. Help stations will be shared by several services, much of the old heavy furniture will give way to flexible furniture that students can configure according to their needs and wireless connectivity will be improved. A coffee service is being considered for the lobby. Fresh paint and new carpet will be grace notes.

These enhancements to student academic services are the result of the happy confluence of the Library and Instructional Technology’s strategic plans, Drew2017 planning and INTO.

THE DEAN'S CORNER

TIME TO HAND IN MY KEYS: AN INTERVIEW WITH THE DEAN



Why retire now?

The timing seems right. The new president will need to build the cabinet with people who can commit to a good number of working years to help deliver the new and emerging goals of the university. It is also time for me to give priority to several writing projects, especially the biography of Robert Funk, the controversial biblical scholar who founded the Jesus Seminar and who taught at Drew early in his career.

What would you like your successor to know?

Drew has been my dream job. I hope it's theirs, too. The new dean will inherit a talented Library staff and faculty.

What qualifications would you like to see in your successor?

The ability to discern between fads and substance in the ever-changing world of scholarly communication.

What Library developments have given you the most satisfaction?

Do we have all day? They would certainly include:

- Proposing the Thomas H. Kean Reading Room and seeing it come into being.
- Creating an ideal sealed micro-environment on the second floor of the Methodist Center for valuable and fragile material.
- Attracting new special collections and archives that have become invaluable resources for undergraduates and scholars alike.
- Seeing our librarians providing leadership for VALE's VALID Project, which will create a new library system for the academic libraries of New Jersey.
- Seeing an Academic Commons begin to take shape in the Library.
- Expanding the roster of Library donors.
- Launching the Conversations on Collecting series.

What will you miss the most?

The Forest in all seasons, the Rose Window, the Mulligan Murals, and the key that grants me 24/7 access to Drew's incredible collections.

You brag about your librarians and staff. Who was your best appointment?

Isn't that akin to asking who among my children I love the most?

Your best day?

A day in early October 2001 when Finn Caspersen called to say that he was prepared to bid on a major cache of Willa Cather material that was coming to auction at Sotheby's in London. The rest of the story is a remarkable chapter in Drew's literary fortunes.

Your worst day?

November 3, 2008, when Professor Merrill Skaggs—Drew icon, friend of the Library, and remarkable colleague—passed away.

A mistake you'd like to correct?

Not fighting hard enough to continue the University Space Committee, a place where the ever-sensitive campus space issues were resolved at the table—not under the table or away from the table.

Any disappointments?

- Deep cuts to the acquisition budget that have not been able to be restored.
- Not finding a way to provide space for students to study 24/7 in the Library throughout the academic year.

If you could invite four librarians to dinner, whom would you choose?

They could be from any era but not include colleagues from your own staff, past or present.

Decherd Turner (former director of the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas, Austin), James Fraser (former University Librarian, Fairleigh Dickinson University,

Madison, N.J.), Barbara Fister (crime-fiction author and librarian at Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minn.), and Henry Scrimgeour (book collector and a founder of the public library in Geneva at the time of John Calvin).

Will you stay engaged with Drew and the Library?

Yes, as much as the university deems appropriate. Maintaining close contact with our donors until the new dean is acclimated is essential. And, as a volunteer, I would like to process material in several of the special collections, especially the archives of the Society of Biblical Literature and the Westar Institute.

Will you continue to live in New Jersey?

Unfortunately not. New Jersey taxes will force us to leave our beloved state in the next few years. North Carolina is a likely retirement address.

Final thoughts?

I'd like to postpone those for as long as possible. They will be the focus of my talk, "I Was a Butler in the House of Books," on March 20.

**Andrew Scrimgeour
to retire June 30
after 14 years as
Dean of Libraries**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew Scrimgeour".

MAXINE KUMIN

continued from page 1

and the graduate school's MFA in Poetry and Translation. As a student of poetry myself, and a great admirer of Maxine Kumin's lifetime of work, I am delighted at the thought of our students reading the same poems, and holding in their hands the same volumes, as one of the giants of 20th century American poetry.

Sean Nevin, Director of the MFA Program in Poetry and Poetry in Translation. The gift to Drew University of Maxine Kumin's personal library will mark another milestone in our MFA's relationship with a major and beloved American poet. Maxine Kumin occupies a central place in the development of American women's poetry in the post-World War II period, and is at the same time a poet strongly rooted in the New England of Dickinson and Frost. Author of numerous books of poetry from the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Up Country* in 1972 to *Where I Live: New & Selected Poems 1990–2010*, Kumin has also pub-

lished a memoir, several novels, a collection of short stories, over 20 children's books and five volumes of essays. Her many awards include the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, an American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award, the Harvard Arts Medal and the Robert Frost Medal.

A keen observer of daily life, celebrant and defender of the natural world and the animal kingdom, Kumin lived and wrote on a 200-acre New Hampshire farm she shared with her husband. Breeder of several generations of horses, she writes in a typical poem, of riding through "wavy stands" of birch and pine,

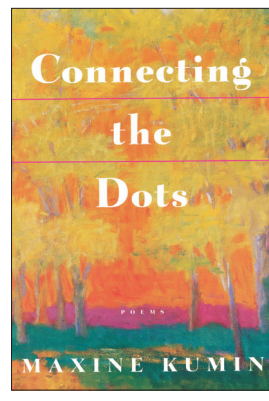
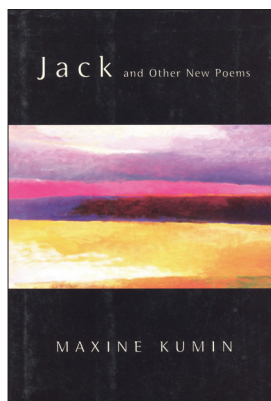
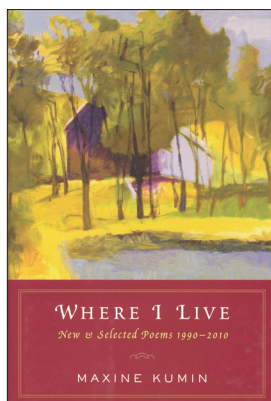
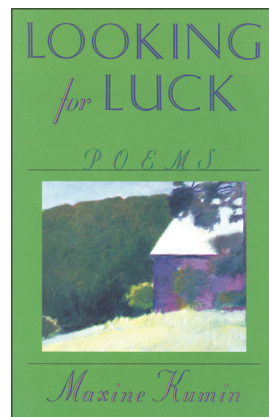
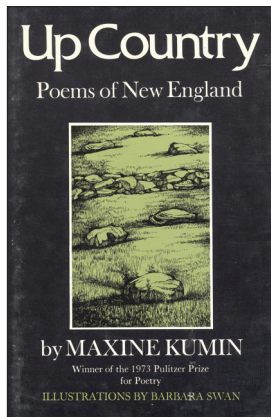
*my horse thinking his thoughts, happy
in the October dapple, and I thinking
mine-and-his, which is my prerogative.*

In a poem aptly called "Nurture," she writes,

*Bring me your fallen fledglings, your
bummer lamb,
lead the abused, the starvelings, into my
barn,
advise the hunted deer to leap into my corn.*



In 2010, The Drew University MFA Program in Poetry and Poetry in Translation celebrated Kumin's life and art with a two-day symposium, interview and poetry reading. Many of our core MFA faculty are personal friends who have worked with Kumin and written about her work for many years. We will be grateful to have this legacy at Drew University.



IMAGES AND SPEECHES EXPAND ON THE WEB

The Department of Special Collections and University Archives is involved with three ongoing digitization projects. The American Methodism Project with Internet Archive (IA) includes 629 items from the Drew Methodist Library. As of December 2013, over 90,400 items have been downloaded from the IA website. The Methodist Image Project with Flickr.com currently has 3,549 scanned images of the Methodist Library collection with over 5,400 user views. Most recently the Department initiated the Kean Speech Project, which includes several thousand speeches made by Governor Thomas Kean during his term as the Governor of New Jersey. These speeches are hosted by the Drew University Library.

RARE AND SPECIAL: FOUR DECADES IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

by Lucy Marks, Special Collections Cataloger

The summer of 1972, after my junior year in college, I worked as a page at the New York Public Library for \$2.05 an hour. I had mentioned to a professor my interest in library work, and he wrote down the name of someone to call. This turned out to be Lola L. Szladits, formidable curator of the Berg Collection of English and American Literature at NYPL, and the subject of a *New Yorker* magazine profile. Lola became my mentor and friend. That glorious summer I took inventory of the Berg's literary manuscripts, handling many thousands of pages and marveling that this could be considered "work." Before I returned to college Lola, typically, decreed, "After you graduate, you'll get a master's in English and then you'll go to Columbia Library School" (where Terry Belanger, another mentor, had begun training rare book librarians). I replied, "OK."

Fast forward several decades and four library positions on two continents. I came to Drew in 1989 as assistant Methodist cataloger, later expanded to special collections cataloger. Drew's special collections encompass such an extraordinary range of periods and forms, that from week to week I might handle anything from the 1493 *Nuremberg Chronicle* to letters of Willa Cather; from the earliest

Book of Common Prayer to literature of the Harlem Renaissance. Thousands of these materials have crossed my desk during nearly 25 years at Drew. The following two books and two collections are among my favorites:

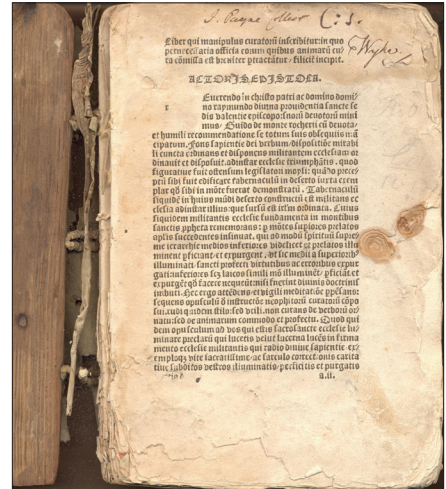
Although many of the library's two-dozen incunabula (books printed before 1501) are richly illuminated and fresh as the day they were printed, Guido de Monte Rochen's *Handbook for Curates* (*Manipulus curatorum*, Paris, Antoine Caillaut,

ca. 1491) instead shows signs of heavy use—torn sewing, split boards, burns, marginal notes—indicative of how greatly its successive owners relied on this popular pastoral guide. May a leper take communion? Should a woman who sinned with her curate make confession to him? Could baptism be performed in meat broth if water were not available? Guido's indispensable handbook apparently outsold Thomas Aquinas's *Summa theologica*. Drew's copy, one of only two recorded copies of this printing, bears the signature of 19th century Shakespeare scholar and notorious forger, John Payne Collier.

The study of basic medicine formed part of the training of 18th century Anglican clergy. In *Primitive Physick, or An Easy and Natural Method of Curing Most Diseases* (London, Thomas Trye, 1747), John Wesley drew from his readings in medical literature to dispense practical advice for maintaining health and treating disease. His hundreds of "cheap, safe and easy" prescriptions, for ailments ranging from Ague and Baldness to Warts, Worms and Wounds, include daily attention to bodily cleanliness, moderate diet and regular exercise; the consumption or application of nettle juice, treacle and soot; and particularly, cold baths, though never going in head first.

Wesley's holistic approach to pastoral work meant ministering to body and soul alike: "The love of God ... becomes the most powerful of all the means of health and long life." *Primitive Physick*

went through 23 editions in Wesley's lifetime, more than his hymns or sermons, and stayed in print continuously for almost 100 years after his death.



Manipulus curatorum. Paris, ca. 1491

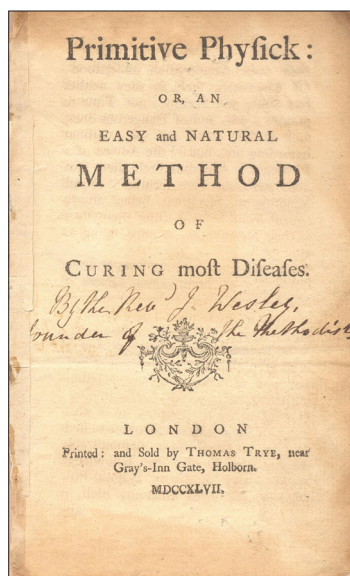
Drew's Willa Cather collection encompasses many materials pertaining to Cather's circle of acquaintances. The largest group of these is the Brewster Collection, roughly 1,700 letters, two dozen books and two memoirs by or associated with expatriate American painters Earl and Achsah Brewster and their daughter, Harwood, who were friends of Cather through her longtime companion, Edith Lewis. Processing the Brewster materials turned out to be a transformative experience. I felt an immediate fascination and sympathetic bond with this bohemian couple, whose history and my own overlap, oddly, in Oberlin, New Haven and Italy. People gravitated to the Brewsters—to their intellectual sophistication and childlike ingenuousness, their sincerity and *joie de vivre*, and above all, their refusal to compromise their values and sense of self, even at great personal cost. I was merely the latest of many to do so, rather as if I had opened up a story book and fallen into the plot. My efforts to learn as much as I could about this couple led me to new and treasured friendships: with their granddaughter, Fran Holt; Cather scholar David Porter, with whom I collaborated on a book about Cather and the Brewsters; and Carmelina Fiorentino, a librarian on Capri, whom I finally met after seven years of correspondence, and who herself was sufficiently intrigued to write



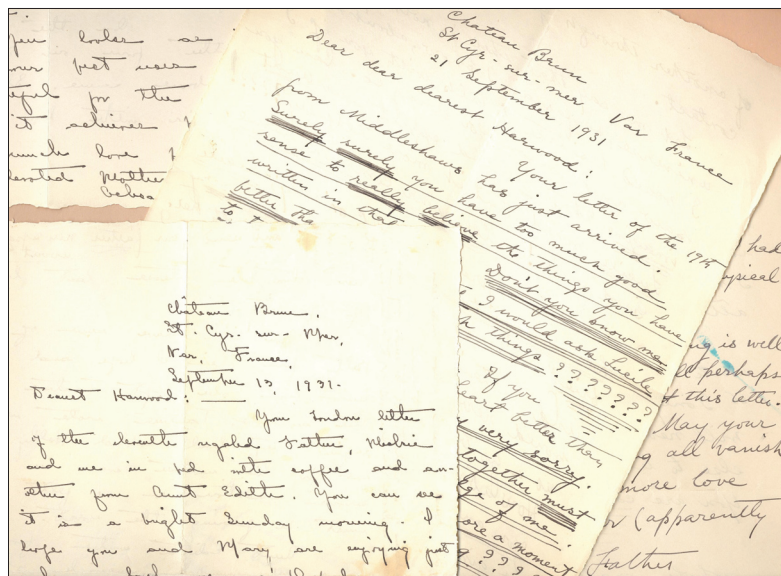
Zuck Collection of Botanical Books

an article about Achsah Brewster.

The Zuck Collection of Botanical Books, gift of alumna Lois Jackson, is the last major collection to cross my desk during my time at Drew. Thanks to Lois' enthusiasm and vast knowledge, I have developed a pleasant acquaintance with the 18th-century pioneers of European and American



John Wesley, *Primitive Physick*. London, 1747, and Letters of Earl and Achsah Brewster



botanical illustration, and with herbs, orchids, field guides and fruit trees. Not only that, but as a cataloger who came of professional age typing cards and then alphabetizing and filing them into the card catalog, I am pleased at the fortuitous happenstance of closing my career with a collection that takes me to the "Z" drawer.

Forty-two years after my first summer at the New York Public Library, there

is still excitement in the tactile, tangible link with the past that comes with handling a book first opened centuries ago, still a sense of communion with the writer whose emotions are reflected in the penmanship and punctuation on the letter in my hand. I know well that it has been both a gift and my great good fortune to have found a vocation that has engaged me so fully, both intellectually

and emotionally. As I leave Drew, I am particularly grateful to Dean Andrew Scrimgeour, to fellow members of the special collections department and to all my library colleagues for their wisdom, support and camaraderie throughout these happy years of discovery.

A MASTERPIECE COMES TO DREW

One could walk the whole history of printing on the spines of great Bibles. From Gutenberg to Baskerville to the peerless *Doves Press Bible* of 1903 and Bruce Roger's splendid *Oxford Lectern Bible* of 1935, Bibles have been the crowning masterpieces of the world's great typographers, printers and illustrators.

Despite this rich tradition, the 20th century has not witnessed a major Bible in which both the New and Old Testaments were illustrated by a single artist. As we neared the end of the millennium, one of the world's greatest living illustrators and bookmen focused his efforts on the book that has made the greatest impact on Western civilization.

As a young man, Barry Moser became a licensed Methodist preacher. While he did not continue in pastoral

ministry, he retained a love for the Bible. Moser's four-year labor of love has culminated in his magnum opus, the *Pennyroyal Caxton Bible*, the first Bible fully illustrated by one individual since Gustave Doré's *La Sainte Bible* of 1865.

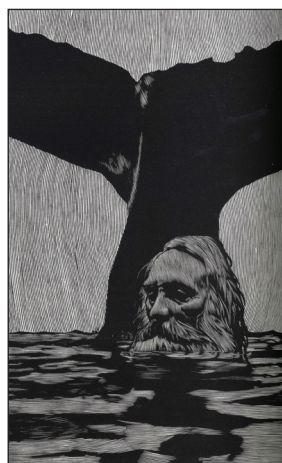
Illustrations grace every book of this Bible except for some of the very short letters attributed to the apostle Paul. They interpret the text in new, often startling ways, ever mining the narrative long buried in centuries of over-familiarity.

Moser said in a public lecture, "If there is a theme to my illustrations for the Bible it is . . . the human condition. The ordinary,

day to day 'problems and passions of the human heart,' as Faulkner put it. My characters are not pious-looking. They smell of fish and sweat, not sanctity and

saintliness. They wear the livery of human imperfection, not the perfection of holiness. They are real people."

Barry Moser is the Irwin and Pauline Alper Glass Professor of Art & Printer to the College at Smith College. Drew University is the owner of the two-volume *Pennyroyal Caxton Bible* thanks to the generosity of Kovner Philanthropy of New York City.



RETIREMENTS



LUCY MARKS

After 25 years as Drew's special collections cataloger, Lucy Marks will retire in June. She arrived in 1989 with rare book cataloging experience from Yale's Beinecke

Library, the American Academy in Rome, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Morgan Library. Over the years, Drew benefited from her broad experience, careful research and meticulous organizational skills as her responsibilities grew from Methodist cataloging projects (hymn-books, backlogs and pamphlets) to the cataloging of exciting collections owned and acquired by the library.

The breadth of her experience mirrors the variety of our special collections,

which include the Maser collection of prayer books, a small collection of incunabula, several collections of Willa Cather material, the Byron Society collection and the Zuck collection of fine botanical illustrations donated by Lois E. Jackson.

Lucy's approach to a new collection is to steep herself in its historical and bibliographic context, so her knowledge of any collection becomes intimately authoritative. She attends to the reputation and intricacies of various editions, decipherers and records handwritten notes and signatures, and follows clues in variant paginations and bindings to produce cataloging products of great utility and beauty for the benefit of scholars and bibliographers.

As she cataloged the various Cather collections, she became intensely interested in Achsa and Earl Brewster, artists who were in Willa Cather's circle and whose letters Drew now owns. As a bibliographer and cataloger, her knowledge of collections is second only to scholars in the field. With the Brewsters, however, she entered that world of scholarship by joining Cather scholar David Porter to write *Seeking Life Whole: Willa Cather and the Brewsters*, which drew on their letters.

As Drew's program of special collections has grown, Lucy Marks has been at the center of its developing strength by creating the bibliographic framework that allows users access to our treasures.

NEW STAFF

MARGERY ASHMUN joined the Library faculty as reference librarian for science on

September 30. She brings a wealth of experience from the petroleum and petrochemical industries, as well as from teaching science in secondary schools.

She graduated from Miami University (Ohio) as a chemistry major, and holds an MLIS from Rutgers University, as well as an MBA from University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Since starting at Drew, Margery has been concentrating on outreach to the Sciences departments and to RISE.



MARY ALICE CICERALE joined the library faculty in December as our new lead metadata librarian and Methodist cataloger.

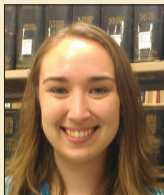
Mary Alice comes to us most recently from the Ginsburg Library at Temple University, and previously held positions at the Arizona State Library and at Rutgers.

She brings expertise in cataloging all varieties of materials and has both reference and systems administration experience as well. Mary Alice will manage the metadata unit's day-to-day work, provide cataloging for all Methodist materials and play a key role in providing access to our growing collection of digital archives.



CASSIE BRAND has been appointed Methodist library and archives associate.

Cassie is a Drew PhD candidate in history and culture with an emphasis in book history. In 2011, she graduated from the University of Indiana with an MLS degree. She has worked at the Lilly Library in Indiana and the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. Cassie directed the recent renovation of the second floor of the Methodist Library in the United Methodist Archives and History Center. In addition to her responsibilities as supervisor of the Wilson Reading Room, she is currently processing the Jacob Landau and Byron Society of America collections.



SAN SOLU joined the library staff as the weekend circulation supervisor in March 2013. He worked in circulation at another academic library on a part-time basis before coming to Drew.

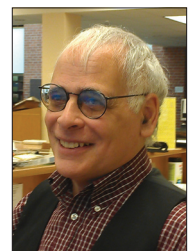
San holds an MPhil degree in art and architectural history from Rutgers University. In addition to his supervisory responsibilities in the library, he is an adjunct professor at Raritan Valley Community College. He has taught there since 2009 and, in September, 2013, won the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award in visual and performing arts for providing his students with the highest quality of instruction.



ERNEST RUBINSTEIN

Ernest Rubinstein, our theological librarian, is retiring at the end of June after nine years at Drew. He came to us with a PhD in religion, and a broad background in reference, indexing and collection development. He had considerable experience teaching as well, which he continued to do on an adjunct basis at NYU Continuing Education and the New School, in addition to his regular teaching of research courses at Drew. Ernie has been especially effective representing the concerns of the Theological School to the Library, and vice versa, occupying a liminal space between the two.

Ernie is perhaps best known for open doors—both literally (his office is always



open) and figuratively, as he warmly welcomed everyone who crossed his path, a latter-day embodiment of Chaucer's Clerk:

*Sownynge in moral vertu was his speche
And gladly wolde he lerne, and gladly teche.*

Unfailingly wise, generous and gentle in his responses, he has become a central feature in the lives of many theological and PhD students, and is deeply beloved of his colleagues in the Library and the Theological School.

During his tenure at Drew, Ernie published his second book, *Religion and the Muse: The Vexed Relation between Religion and Western Literature*, as well as multiple articles and papers. A third book, *Philosophical Spirituality*, will be published this year by Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. An early review states, "Throughout the book there is a good deal of evidence that the reader is engaged with a mature and deeply contemplative intellect." Following retirement, he is planning to continue work on his next book, exploring Jewish/Christian relations.

RECENT GIFTS

The Library gratefully acknowledges the following gifts.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Dr. Lucille F. Becker
Dr. Lois E. Beekey
Mr. William S. Brockman
Ms. Katherine G. Brown
Mr. Kenneth Cole
Ms. Rosemarie Collingwood-Cole
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A complete online archive of past issues of *Visions* can be viewed on the library website at: drew.edu/library/visions

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UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

Conversations on Collecting

Hosted by the Friends of the Library, 4–5 p.m., Pilling Room, Rose Library

February 19, 2014

“Selecting Books, Collecting Books, and Storing Fictional Characters”
Ernest Rubinstein

Ernie Rubinstein, who has been Theological Librarian at Drew University since August 2005, offers a collection of interrelated reflections on selecting books for a university library, collecting books for a personal library, and mentally archiving fictional characters from favorite novels and stories who accompany us through life.

March 20, 2014

“I Was a Butler in the House of Books”
Andrew D. Scrimgeour

Dean Scrimgeour’s farewell talk to the Drew community will poke into libraries he has served, sample books that have delighted and haunted him, sketch people he will never forget, muse on the magic of writing and spin a few (tall) tales.

Reception

March 20, 2014, 5–6 p.m., Kean Reading Room, Rose Library

A retirement reception for Dean of Libraries Andrew Scrimgeour will immediately follow his Conversations on Collecting talk.



Collecting Byron

A Conference in Celebration of the Byron Society Collection

April 11–13, 2014

Featuring the
NINTH LESLIE A. MARCHAND MEMORIAL LECTURE
Alice Levine, Hofstra University
“Selecting Byron”

PANELS

- Collecting and Recollecting
- Graphic Satire: Ephemera and Literary History
- Collecting In/Places
- Collecting as Text
- Editing and Writing Byron
- Digital Byron
- Motivations and Challenges in Collecting

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

“Byron and the Romantic Composer”
Robert Butts, Conductor
New Jersey Baroque Ensemble
with performers

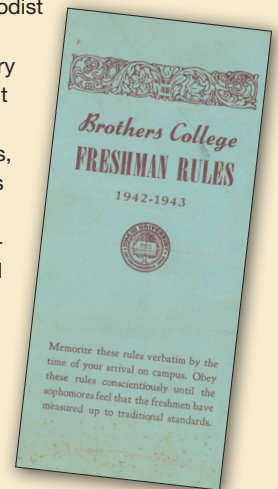
Registration and complete conference program:
drew.edu/library/byron

LIBRARY EXHIBITS

November 12, 2013–
March 31, 2014

The Forest Dwellers of Madison: Student Life at Drew, 1867–2013

This exhibit documents the student experience at Drew University from its 19th-century Methodist origins to its richly diverse 21st-century present. The exhibit includes original archival documents, realia, photographs and film footage from the Drew special collections and university archives collections. The materials highlight the classes, clubs, music and sports that constitute student life at Drew over the past 145



years. The exhibit is on display at the Library and the Methodist Center.

Curated by Matthew Beland, university archivist and Christopher Anderson, head of special collections and archives and Methodist librarian

April 9–May 29, 2014

Collecting Byron: An Exhibition

The exhibit celebrates the gift to Drew of the Byron Society Collection, founded by Marsha M. Manns and Leslie A. Marchand, on display in the Library lobby and the Methodist Center. Included are books, engravings, statues, images of Byron and selections from the Byron Society of America archive.

Curated by Lucy Marks, special collections cataloger, and Cassie Brand, Methodist associate, with the assistance of graduate students Brian Shetler and Susannah Buck