

Local Activist Donates Resources on Convict Leasing



Moore at one of the Sugar Land cemeteries where leased convicts were buried.

Reginald Moore, activist and founder of the Texas Slave Descendants Society, recently engaged in a project with Rice University students and faculty members including Lora Wildenthal, associate dean of humanities, as part of a Houston Area Research Team (HART) project. The group's focus on convict leasing in Sugar Land, Texas has resulted in an online exhibit and the donation of Moore's archival research collection.

This exhibit and archival collection will raise awareness of the economic, psychological and social impact of the history of convict leasing. The system in Texas started officially in 1878, just after the U.S. Civil War, when slavery had been outlawed but the culture had not changed significantly. Prisoners, usually African-American males, could be leased by plantation owners and business owners as low-cost, unregulated workers, essentially continuing the legacy of

slavery. Their wages were paid to the state, significantly contributing to the housing costs for prisoners in a penal system which was strapped for cash. However, dangerous working conditions were permitted with little state oversight, resulting in the deaths of many workers.

Eventually, in 1908, newspaper journalists began to report publicly on the abuse and neglect of this group of Texas prisoners. The state responded by changing the prison system rules in 1910 so that the contracts of all private employers of prisoners would expire by Jan. 1, 1914.

Although public activist pressure brought about the end of this system in the early 20th century, its history has remained relatively quiet since then. The silence was recently broken by Moore, who became interested in this topic as a result of his service as a correctional officer in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, 1985–

1988, at a prison farm located in rural Sugar Land. He began researching the area and came to realize there were unrecognized historic sites and known (and possibly unknown) cemeteries of these prisoners of the convict leasing system.

The Sugar Land area, just southwest of Houston, actually played a central role in the convict leasing system, having been a corporate town for the sugar-producing Oakland Plantations, which included prison farms. Many of the prisoners there were leased as farm workers by Oakland Plantation, which was bought by Imperial Sugar Company in 1908. The next year, the state bought land from Imperial Sugar and opened the Imperial State Prison Farm, which was renamed the Central State Prison Farm in 1930. Sugar Land continued to grow and, by the end of the 20th century,

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CHECK IT OUT!

- Pg. 4** Fondren helps save Astrodome memorabilia
- Pg. 7** Check out what you didn't know you could check out at the Circ desk
- Pg. 13** Collections of Houston giant Jesse Jones come to Fondren



Fondren Library

Save Your Stuff: Independent Music Edition

Consider the attic. There was a time that we could take all the things that were important to us, seal them in boxes, stash them in the attic (or the closet or the basement) and feel satisfied that they would still be there in 30 years. There's nothing particularly special about attics — in fact, in preservation terms, it's not the best place to store your stuff — but for a culture that saved physical objects and hard copies, it worked well enough.

Today, the attic is being replaced in our culture largely by hard drives. Unfortunately, the 30-year mindset still lingers in the public mind, even though hard drives have an average lifespan of five years. This concern was coursing through our minds earlier this year when we — that is, Fondren's archivist librarian Norie Guthrie and I — conducted an online survey. We consider homegrown music a worthwhile part of our shared cultural heritage, so we wanted to examine the ways independent and do-it-yourself record labels keep track of their materials. We contacted small labels — from companies of about 10 employees to operations literally run out of living rooms — and eventually heard back from more than 150 of them in over a dozen countries. They gave us a lot of fascinating information, but the most important discovery was that more than half of the labels were concerned about preservation. They told us they wanted to learn how to ... well, save their stuff.

The end result was Indie Preserves (www.indiepreserves.info), a website where practical preservation tips are made available, free of charge, to anyone who wants to use them. As the name suggests, our intended audience is the indie labels who explicitly told us they wanted help. However, the advice in our blog is applicable to any who want to preserve their work — whether it's on a hard drive or a



cassette tape — for the foreseeable future.

In addition to practical advice, Indie Preserves has interviewed several key figures in the archives community who work with label- and music-specific collections, including Julie Grob, curator of the Houston Hip Hop Archive at the University of Houston; Rory Grennan and Katie Nichols, the (respectively) former and current project managers of the Urbana-Champaign Local Music Preservation Initiative at the Sousa Archives, Center for American Music at the University of Illinois; Elizabeth Reilly, curator of photographic archives at the University of Louisville and one of the four co-founders of the Louisville Underground Music Archive Project; and Rob Sevier, co-founder of Chicago's premier archival record label, the Numero Group.

In the coming months, Indie Preserves hopes to ramp up our efforts in providing preservation assistance to the indie music community, while making further connections with the archival community. In October, we had the dual pleasures of being asked



Norie Guthrie and Scott Carlson

to take part in a session on public digital archives at the 2016 Society of American Archivists conference as well as being accepted to present at the 2016 SXSW Music conference. We want to take our preservation dog-and-pony act to the epicenters of both the music industry and the archives community to stress the dire need for long-term safeguarding of independent music — physically and digitally.

Scott Carlson
Metadata Coordinator

Open Access Developments @ Rice



Open access (OA) is important to the university, not only because it helps those without journal subscriptions to access research and scholarship, but also because it helps to expand the visibility of Rice researchers and promotes collaboration among institutions and disciplines. Rice University maintains a website to help support Rice's Open Access initiatives at: <http://openaccess.rice.edu>.

Rice demonstrates its commitment to the unencumbered exchange of knowledge both through its open access policy and by being the home of several innovative open access journals, projects and publishing ventures. Fondren Library supports multiple open access projects, including the Rice Digital Scholarship Archive, and subsidizes open access publishing fees for BioMedCentral/Chemistry Central/Springer Open as well as the Royal Society of Chemistry.

One of the most exciting recent open access projects currently based at Rice is the journal *Cultural Anthropology* (<http://www.culanth.org>). Previously published by Wiley-Blackwell, *Cultural Anthropology* decided to go its own way in 2014. New articles are now freely available to anyone, without a subscription, and 10 years of back issues will soon be available. Faculty members Dominic Boyer, James Faubion and Cymene Howe took over as the journal's editors earlier this year, and graduate student Marcel LaFlamme serves as managing editor. LaFlamme has worked closely with Fondren Library over the past four years, as both a researcher and student worker in Access Services.

"Going open access has forced *Cultural Anthropology* to think about how to broaden our base of support," said LaFlamme. "We see Fondren, as well as Duke University Libraries [which host the journal's submissions system], as invaluable partners as we work to produce, disseminate and preserve scholarly content without hiding it behind a payroll."

Another project, the Our Americas Archive Partnership (OAAP) is a multi-institutional digital humanities project that supports collaborative research among scholars, technologists and librarians on key concerns of hemispheric American studies. One aspect of this project was developing teaching modules based on archival materials physically housed in the Woodson Research Center at Fondren Library. These education modules were created using Connexions, an open educational repository. A collection of these research modules can be found at <http://bit.ly/1ZhqlI9>. Connexions now has evolved into OpenStax College.

OpenStax uses philanthropic investments from major foundations to produce online textbooks that have the same look and feel as books that cost \$100 or more. All OpenStax College textbooks are available for free online and at low cost in print. The 15 titles in the OpenStax collection have been used by more than 540,000 students and adopted by instructors in more than 2,000 courses worldwide and those numbers are constantly growing.

Fondren staff can advise on developing open access publishing models, understanding copyright, using addenda that allow authors to retain more rights and complying with new federal public access requirements. For more information about open access at Rice, please contact Shannon Kipphut-Smith at sk60@rice.edu.

Debra Kolab
User Experience Librarian

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many of the landmarks from the convict leasing era were still unrecognized and in danger of being covered over by new development. Moore testified at relevant city council meetings; corresponded and met with archaeologists, historians and politicians; and sought appropriate commemorations such as historical markers, a museum and monument, and a public apology from the state as well as from the city of Sugar Land.

Moore's donation of his research materials on this topic shines a light on an important but neglected part of Texas and U.S. history: convict leasing that overwhelmingly affected African-American men and their families. The factors that helped create convict leasing continue to affect our society, especially in the prison system.

The online exhibit created by the HART project students is available at <http://exhibits.library.rice.edu/exhibits/show/sugarlandconvictleasing/about>. The Reginald Moore Convict Leasing in Sugar Land research materials collection is available for research in the Woodson Research Center (see the guide at <http://archives.library.rice.edu/repositories/2/resources/925>).

Amanda Focke
Assistant Head, Special Collections

For Love of the Dome

Jan. 3, 1962, when local officials began firing Colt .45s into the dirt to break ground for the Astrodome, Harris County gave notice that it was building the first multipurpose, indoor, air-conditioned domed event space/sports venue in the nation, engineered to deal with Houston's subtropical heat and mosquito population as well as the smokers in the audience. Houston Public Library, in collaboration with area archives, including the Woodson Research Center (WRC), has created the Astrodome Memories Project to preserve its history. Both Amanda Focke and I from the WRC are members of the project team.

The project provides access to a broad collection of Astrodome-related materials, including items contributed by the public as well as from major archives in the Houston area and the state. The collection includes oral histories, photographs, blueprints and audiovisual materials related to the construction of the Astrodome, as well as



pamphlets, scrapbooks and memorabilia documenting the use of the Astrodome for the last 50 years.

Thousands of Astrodome fans have attended two public events hosted by the Astrodome memories team. On April 9, a 50th anniversary party and scanning event for the Dome was staged at the site, sponsored by Harris County, Preservation Houston and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. On Aug. 8, a scanning and oral history event was held at the Houston Public Library's historic Julia Ideson Building. Attendees happily shared personal stories of their experiences in the Astrodome. Two of the original Spacettes, the women who ushered guests in the Dome, brought memorabilia: Betty Court Laney brought photos, while Emily Hammond brought her 1965 gold lamé uniform, including blue boots and Astrodome-shaped pillbox hat. Blushing bride Terry Ortiz brought photos of her wedding, which was held on the field before an Astros game. Other fans brought photos and memorabilia of sporting events, the rodeo and concerts held in the Dome.

The next scanning event has been scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14th, in Fondren's Digital Media Center. The Astrodome Memories Project staff will be happy to scan your memorabilia and record your oral history by appointment and at future events over the next year. Further information may be found at www.astrodome memories.org.

Dara Flinn
Archivist/Special Collections Librarian

What is a Bento Box?

In July 2015, Fondren Library rolled out a new website, featuring a new "bento box" search, a greater emphasis on easy access to services and a more streamlined user experience. A bento box is a compartmentalized lunch box originating in Japan; the new library website uses a single search for a number of information sources, then displays the results separated by source.

- The new design is easily responsive for all devices, so the need for a mobile app is eliminated.
- A reduction in size (from 5,000 pages to 400 pages) makes navigation easier.
- We still have robust department pages with listings of all DMC equipment, short course pages and a new updated Fondren calendar, which allows easy viewing of all current Fondren events in one place.
- Green action buttons appear on many pages to ease navigation.

The Fondren Web team aimed to include as many individuals as possible through the redesign process that started in summer 2014 and was completed in spring 2015. One of the biggest challenges in a library website is avoiding library jargon, and much effort was made to get student and faculty input on using language that would be understood. In our previous website, we had seen evidence of student confusion over using "Articles & Databases" on the same tab, so this website avoids compound choices, presenting one item on each tab.

Additionally, every effort was made to identify the top reasons that users came to the website. Google Analytics, focus groups and student interviews provided valuable insights that determined the final website location of library hours, study room requests and requesting items.

The faculty Committee on the Library reviewed an initial prototype in the spring, expressing support while noting that the prototype had "too many bars." The prototype was simplified before rollout. Library staff also participated in the usability testing, and many improvements to the design were made after their input, including easier access to the "Report a Problem" function and an improved one-stop "Contact Us" form. Previously, users had to go to multiple forms to report problems or to contact individual departments.

The search box located on the main page serves up a bento box results page

displaying separately the many sources of information provided by the library. Search results thus include:

- Results from the library website itself
- Librarian-created "research guides"
- The Rice Digital Scholarship Archive
- The Woodson Archives
- Books & More (the library "classic" catalog)
- Articles (OneSearch)

In previous versions of the library website, a search could not access all of those resources at once, and it was more challenging to do multiple searches across resources. Future improvements to the website may include the development of various filters, so that users can select the resources most useful to them and save those for future searches.

Your feedback is still important to us! We are moving toward a more agile, iterative design process where small updates to the website are made more regularly. The Fondren User Experience office is holding "guerrilla" usability sessions on Thursday mornings to seek out feedback from students on their current use of the library website. Additionally, you may use the "Contact Us" form on the website to deliver feedback. We hope to make any necessary changes from this wave of feedback over the Winter Break.

Debra Kolab
User Experience Librarian



News from the Kelley Center for Government Information, Data and Geospatial Services

I am in the process of working with the staff of the Kelley Center for Government Information, Data and Geospatial Services to expand its services to include data, particularly government-published statistical data. This year has seen a flurry of activity in the Kelley Center.

Kelley Center staff continue to offer their very popular patent and trademark searching classes to Rice and the greater Houston community. Additionally, two high-profile training sessions on patents and trademarks were organized and offered by the Kelley Center this year. On May 19, Michael Hydorn and Daphne Joseph from the Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) shared patent and trademark search strategies. Approximately 100 attended from across Rice as well as the Greater Houston area. Individuals from many local organizations also presented on



Kelley Center staff with the Honorable Edward W. Kelley, Jr. '54 and Mrs. Kelley



their patent-related services. On Sept. 16, the Kelley Center hosted Craig Morris, educational outreach attorney for trademarks at the USPTO, who gave an insider's look into trademark basics.

The Kelley Center celebrated the 225th anniversary of the first U.S. patent with the announcement of a new service, the addition of Rice patents to the Rice Digital Scholarship Archive (see: <https://scholarship.rice.edu/handle/1911/79705>). This project seems to be a first among libraries and one that is sure to garner much attention. Along with the Kelley Center's Linda Spiro, Siu Min Yu and me, contributors to this project were Scott Carlson, metadata coordinator; Monica Rivero, digital curation coordinator; Lisa Spiro, executive director of digital scholarship services; and Shannon Kipphut-Smith, scholarly communications liaison. An account

of the project has been published in the journal Code4Lib and is available at <http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/10981>.

Last, but not least, the Kelley Center staff were very pleased to meet the group's namesakes in person this year, the Honorable Edward W. Kelley, Jr. '54 and Mrs. Kelley, who stopped by for a visit in March. The Kelleys were impressed by the look of the entire area and intrigued by the variety of users and advanced services that are offered.

The Kelley Center was part of the basement renovations during 2014–2015, and now has a more approachable service desk, new furnishings to facilitate student group study and an oversized monitor for sharing digital work.

*Katherine Hart Weimer
Head, Kelley Center for Government Information, Data and Geospatial Services*

Access Services Offers an Assortment of Equipment to Check Out

Regular visitors to Fondren know that the Digital Media Commons circulates a wide variety of equipment, including video recorders, cameras and even computers. But visitors might have missed the many pieces of equipment available for checkout at the Access Services desk. Most items complement other services available from Access Services, so students checking out a CD can also check out headphones for use at a listening station, while study room users can check out VGA and HDMI cables and adapters for use with the TVs in those rooms. But the most popular item is perhaps the least expected: large golf umbrellas branded with the "Club Fondren" logo. "We got the idea from a visit to Vanderbilt University," said Diane Butler,

Fondren's director of IT and access services. "They told me how popular umbrellas were, so I decided to do it here. It has been very successful; the students love them." Indeed, the three dozen umbrellas get checked out quickly on days when students get caught umbrella-less in the library, with frequent requests for the library to purchase more. Butler is always eager to hear ideas for additional equipment that will help students. She is currently exploring battery packs with cables to charge phones and laptops, which should be available for checkout by the end of the semester.

*David M. Bynog
Assistant Head of Acquisitions*



Umbrellas

Large golf umbrellas branded with the Club Fondren logo

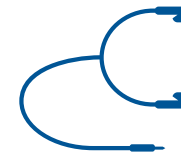
Loan Period
2 days



Headphones

Stereo headphones for TVs, stereos, PCs, and music practice room

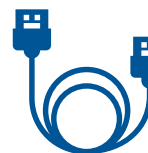
Loan Period
4 hours



Disposable Earbuds

Small headphones given out to visitors for use at the public workstations

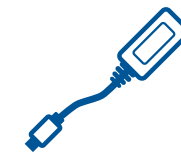
Free



VGA and HDMI Cables

For connecting laptops and devices to wall-mounted monitors in study rooms

Loan Period
4 hours



Adapters for Apple Laptops

Connect your Apple Macbook to a VGA cable on external monitors/projectors

Loan Period
4 hours



Dry-Erase Markers & Erasers

For use with dry-erase boards in study rooms and throughout the library

Loan Period
flexible

New Database and Metadata Management Coordinator Arrives



After an impressive career in public librarianship, which saw her rise from cataloger to manager to acting department head in less than a decade, Amber Seely now is bringing her wealth of experience to Rice University as Fondren's new database and metadata management coordinator.

Born in Dallas, Seely moved to Houston in 2005. After graduating that year from the School of Library and Information Science at Texas Woman's University, she was quickly hired as a cataloger by the Houston Public Library system.

Though librarianship has become a meaningful part of her life in the past decade — she follows in the footsteps of her mother, an elementary and middle school librarian — it was not originally part of her plan. Instead, Seely anticipated a job as an archaeologist; at the University of Texas at Austin, she triple-majored in anthropology, Latin, and ancient history and classical civilization. After graduating, Seely took a semester off to participate in several archaeological digs. She traveled to New Mexico to excavate at the Old Town ruin of Luna County, a site associated with

the culture of the Mimbres, a Native American people known for exquisitely painted black-and-white pottery. Afterward, she worked on sites around Italy's Metaponto, a formerly prosperous outpost of Magna Grecia founded in the Bronze Age.

Seely does not downplay the importance of her archaeological studies. "When you're an archaeologist, most of what you do has to do with what you've found, where you found it, how you found it, the context of the place it came from," said Seely. "In a lot of ways, that's exactly what we do in cataloging and creating metadata."

By the time Seely left the Houston Public Library system, she had risen to acting chief of library materials services. However, given her rigorous scholarly background, her sights and thoughts were never far from academic librarianship; in fact, during her term in library school, Seely completed a practicum at Rice's Woodson Research Center. "I've always been interested in academia, but it was just never the right time," said Seely.

Since Seely arrived at Fondren, one of her major undertakings has been the programming and procedural

documentation for automating the loading of e-books into the library's catalog. She also is developing a plan to enrich the library's catalog with linked data. Hidden from public view, this enrichment will benefit Fondren should its online catalog be moved to a linked data environment. Seely also is the linchpin behind the Name App, a project that will modify open-source name authority software developed by the University of North Texas to store Fondren's digital metadata.

Despite a passion for librarianship, Seely knows that the sedentary nature of cataloging and metadata work can have a negative effect on one's health. To combat this effect, Seely became an active runner and cyclist in 2007. "Running was always the hardest activity for me," she said, "so I thought I might give it a shot." By fall 2015, Seely has participated in 12 triathlons and bike and running races in this year alone. Before the year is out, that number likely will increase.

Scott Carlson
Metadata Coordinator

New Information Literacy Librarian Returns Home

Joe Goetz '98 discovered a path to librarianship in 2007 during his tenure as a writing instructor at Loyola University in Chicago. "I was working more closely with a librarian than in my previous teaching positions," said Goetz, "when I realized that my background as a writing instructor fed really well into teaching library research." After completing his library degree in 2009, he immediately put his teaching skills to use at the University of St. Thomas library in Houston, where his task was to lead the information literacy program. Having spent the past five years developing that program, Goetz now has been appointed as Fondren Library's new information literacy librarian.

While there are many aspects to information literacy, Goetz explained that its core is getting students to "authentically engage with the world of information," a process that includes understanding what information is, how it is produced, when it is needed and how to use it. Goetz also emphasized the vital need to educate users as to why libraries remain an essential part of that process. In his new role at Fondren, Goetz will be the primary contact for the information literacy needs of faculty and students. In that capacity, he will work closely with the Center for Written, Oral and Visual Communication. Additional major responsibilities include coordinating instruction activities in the reference department and working with faculty in the English



and anthropology departments to select materials that support their research and curriculum needs.

Of the many components of his new position, Goetz particularly looks forward to working with Rice students. He hopes to "guide them to discover new ways of research and learning that are more efficient and more rewarding than they may be able to discover on their own." Goetz's prior teaching experience at the middle school and college levels will undoubtedly help with that goal, and his status as an alumnus qualifies him distinctively in the understanding of Rice's undergraduate culture. While a student during the 1990s, Goetz was heavily involved in many facets of undergraduate life, serving as the poetry editor for The University Blue, team captain for the Rice men's crew and Beer Bike coordinator for Brown College. Additionally, he has maintained an active relationship with students in recent years as a Brown College community associate. "I've always found Rice to be a uniquely invigorating and inspiring place," Goetz said. He looks forward to helping the library develop as "a focal point for that amazing energy."

David M. Bynog
Assistant Head of Acquisitions

Fondren's User Experience Efforts Bolstered

In July, Amanda Thomas joined Fondren Library's user experience (UX) department, where she works as a librarian to study and improve the usability of both electronic and physical library spaces. Her current areas of focus are usability of the new website and study room reservation system; this work will include coordinating guerrilla studies in common spaces of the library over the fall semester. She also will serve as the bibliographer for psychology.



Before arriving at Rice, Thomas was the research librarian at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) at Stanford University. There, she was the liaison for about 40 visiting CASBS fellows each academic year, assisting with research for these social scientists from around the world. Her work contributed to publications such as "The Language of Food" by Dan Jurafsky and "Words Onscreen" by Naomi Baron.

A San Francisco Bay Area native, Thomas received her master's degree in library and information science from San Jose State University, with an emphasis on Web programming and information architecture, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from San Francisco State University.

Debra Kolah
User Experience Librarian

Head of Fondren Circulation Retires



For many years, Ginny Martin has served as the face of circulation, dedicating 32 years of service to Fondren Library.

Paula Sanders, vice provost for academic affairs, professor of history and the interim director of the Boniuk Institute, shared, “She has encyclopedic knowledge of the library and its systems, and has always taken a problem-solving and flexible approach to issues that needed attention. Most importantly, she really exemplifies the ideal of library staff as full partners to faculty and students in our pursuit of knowledge. I will miss her tremendously.”

Martin has seen many interesting changes over the years. The department has had four location changes and three different systems, adapted its functions during the Economic Summit, and given borrowing privileges to over 100 students from Tulane following Hurricane Katrina.

She started in 1982 as a circulation assistant and, despite a short departure for another job, remained at Fondren Library for most of her career. She rose through the ranks to attain her current position of access services manager. She has loved the public service aspect of working circulation and has had many wonderful interactions with students, staff and faculty. She also has served on many library and campus committees.

Sara Lowman, vice provost and university librarian, wrote, “Ginny has always been strongly committed to customer service, as evidenced by her leadership and work ethic during Hurricane Ike. After Hurricane Ike hit, the library was closed only for a very brief period of time. Ginny marshaled her student workers and the access services staff and personally worked many long days in order to staff the circulation and security desks, keeping the building open to serve as a

refuge for students and the neighborhood. The library was packed with people looking for a place to study, cool off and charge mobile devices.”

Martin’s service with Rice’s alternative spring breaks also is notable. From 2007–2013, she was a staff participant, providing mentorship and even driving the van. Destinations included Camp Campbell in Boulder Creek, Calif.; San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; Mason Neck State Park, Va.; Charlotte, N. C.; Savannah, Ga.; Camp Olympia in Trinity, Texas; and locations in Houston.

Mentorship has defined her managerial career, with four student assistants and nine access services staff members finishing library degrees. That so many of her staff looked to librarianship for professional careers has been a source of pride.

She was recently honored in the Women of Rice exhibition: <http://news.rice.edu/2014/03/04/women-of-rice-project-shines-light-on-rice-women-past-and-present/>

Martin’s retirement will focus on reading, travel and visiting family in Austin and Washington state. She will continue her relationship with Fondren Library, returning in November for an accessibility event she has helped to plan. We wish her all the best in retirement.

*Debra Kolah
User Experience Librarian*



Bingo Returns to Fondren

For the second year in a row, Fondren Library hosted a scavenger hunt to help orient students to service points and resources in the library. This year’s event, hosted Sept. 9 by the library’s Committee on Marketing and Customer Service (CMACS), offered prizes for students who completed a row on their bingo card, with specialty prizes for students who visited every spot on their card. As with last year’s event, students commented on their pleasure at learning about previously unfamiliar aspects of the library, with many of this year’s participants indicating that they had located “nice new study spots.” Special thanks to the Friends of Fondren Library for generously funding many of the prizes!

*Debra Kolah
User Experience Librarian*



Fondren Student Workers Start the Year Right

On the evening of Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015, the Student Assistant Advisory Committee held its annual orientation for new student workers. Forty students from departments throughout the library attended, where they learned about customer service policies, work expectations, guidelines and paychecks. Sandi Edwards, head of reference, also provided a construction update and welcome, and Rice University police officer Philip Roach provided details on safety and security. All library staff in attendance and the student workers briefly introduced themselves before enjoying a dinner provided by the committee. The evening closed with a viewing of a customer service video created by Rice students.

David M. Bynog
Assistant Head of Acquisitions



Bottom L: Fondren's Jane Zhao.
Bottom R: Sandi Edwards mid-welcome



Jesse Jones Collections Added to the Woodson Research Center

After several years of negotiations with Houston Endowment, Inc., the Woodson Research Center has acquired several major collections related to Jesse Holman Jones — the Jones Corporate and Property Records and the Jones Family and Personal Papers. Jones, known for his roles as secretary of commerce and chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was one of the nation's most powerful officials during the Depression and World War II. His legacy in Houston is evident in his contributions to the city skyline as well as the philanthropic foundation established by Jones and his wife in 1937.

The collections comprise more than 340 boxes and span extensive records on Jones' family members, his political and public service activities, and his return to business and philanthropic endeavors in Houston. Political and public service activities included involvement in the Houston Ship Channel, the American Red Cross, the 1928 Democratic National Convention in Houston and the Texas Centennial, as well as Reconstruction Finance Corporation activities 1932–39 and time as secretary of commerce 1940–45. The corporate and property records detail Jones' extensive dealings in real estate. He established the South Texas Lumber Company and became a mogul in the prewar years, building and owning over 100 skyscrapers, theaters, apartments and hotels in Houston, Fort Worth, Dallas and New York. He owned the Houston Chronicle, was president of the National Bank of Commerce (now Texas Commerce Bank) and was an original stockholder in Humble Oil & Refining Company (Exxon). He was closely associated with U.S. Presidents Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. His business acumen and philosophy are documented through his many public and private speaking engagements, and his correspondence sheds light on many contemporaries, among them William L. Clayton, Will and Oveta C. Hobby, Howard Hughes, J.H. Kirby, John N. Garner, Capt. James A. Baker and other notable Houstonians and national figures.

The photograph component of the collection is impressive and extensive, documenting the facades and interiors of numerous buildings. A Jones family property, Deepwater Ranch, with an unparalleled view of the San Jacinto Monument and now part of the Houston Ship Channel, is shown in its own album, as is the career and family life of close friend Will Rogers, known for his political satire and humor. The collections were closely examined in the writing of "Unprecedented Power: Jesse Jones, Capitalism, and the Common Good" by Houston Endowment Community Affairs Officer Steven Fenberg, as well as numerous articles and a film documentary, "Brother, Can You Spare a Billion? The Story of Jesse H. Jones."

A complementary collection is also included in the gift from Houston Endowment: the M.T. Jones Lumber Company Records and Business Ledgers. Martin Tilford Jones was Jesse Jones' uncle who employed him at the beginning of his career as manager of the lumber empire in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado. Here Jones began a record of being highly successful as he found himself propelled from his father's rural Tennessee tobacco farm to the national stage as one of the most influential Americans of the 20th century.

For finding aid listings for the collections, please visit library.rice.edu/woodson.

Lee Pecht
University Archivist, Director Special Collections





Mary Brower with Dara Flinn of the Woodson Research Center.

stayed with them at their home in Brussels and gave performances there as well. In addition to 10 autograph scores, the collection contains 12 published scores with inscriptions, approximately 225 pages of correspondence and various ephemera related to the collection. The Lambiotte autographs are from the early and very late periods of his career. This is a sizeable collection of Poulenc documents to have in one place, as the composer had a habit of giving his manuscripts to friends or leaving them with publishers, so other manuscripts are widely dispersed. Few working drafts or sketches can be located today.

Music manuscripts, like other primary sources, are infinitely useful for today's music historians, composers and performers alike. While they may represent the same musical composition, manuscripts, being handwritten, have a uniqueness that printed copies do not. A composer's manuscript is a window into the compositional process; sketches, notes, revisions, inscriptions and the handwriting itself give insight into the composer's personality. The path of each autograph through time can tell much about a composer's circle of friends and acquaintances, and as one Shepherd School alumnus wrote in his letter of support, "There's a certain connection one has with music when they see a manuscript in person, a bit like meeting someone in person you only knew through email or phone ... I was able to visit a library outside of Zürich that owned ... the autograph of the Mozart clarinet concerto, arguably the most historically important piece for my instrument! There was something incredible about holding the pages in my hands ... that over 200 years ago Mozart had in his hands!"

To be continued...

Mary Brower
Music Librarian

Poulenc Treasure Comes to Rice: Part 1

Late in the work day Jan. 28, I saw in my inbox, "Offer of Francis Poulenc Archive." Upon opening the message, I saw —

FIRST TIME OFFERED FOR SALE

THE LAMBIOTTE POULENC ARCHIVE

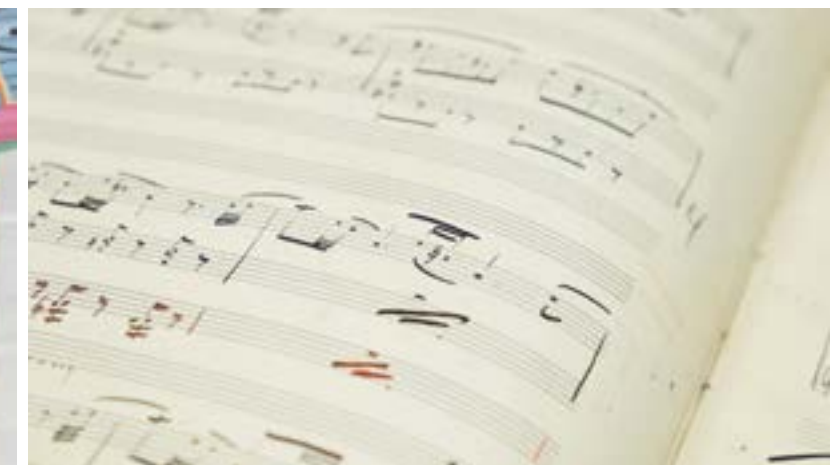
Autograph musical manuscripts
Signed and inscribed printed scores
Autograph letters, &c.
of the distinguished French composer
FRANCIS POULENC (1899–1963)

Manuscripts in the composer's own hand aren't often offered for sale to libraries these days — asking prices having soared and library budgets tending to go the other way. However, Poulenc — stylistically diverse and part of the French avant garde scene of early 20th-century Paris, and linked with Cocteau, Stravinsky, Satie, Apollinaire, to name a few — would be a magnificent acquisition. I immediately emailed

my colleague in the cataloging department, who responded, "Well, it would take care of your budget for the next five years ... It would be totally awesome. And it would make Rice a destination library for Poulenc scholars."

As it turned out, I was able to convince the Fondren administration that this would indeed be a very worthwhile collection to have, and funding was miraculously available — if enough interest from enough people in the Shepherd School of Music could be shown. By the end of the next week, and with the help of music faculty members, we received over 20 letters of support from faculty, students and alumni, and the collection was ours.

The Lambiotte Family/Francis Poulenc Archive is the former private collection of Rose Lambiotte (1891–1964), purchased by Rice from her grandchildren, Peter and Caroline Donhauser, through music antiquarians J & J Lubrano in New York. Poulenc befriended the Lambiottes sometime in the 1940s, and referred to them as his Belgian family. He often



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Paul Wall: “The Peoples Champ” Platinum Record

This platinum record commemorates the selling of one million copies of Houston rapper Paul Wall’s second studio album, “The Peoples Champ.” Fondren Library acquired the award in 2012 as part of the Swishahouse record label collection, MS 607, the first hip-hop label archived in the Woodson Research Center. The collection contains many other items related to the record label, including photographs, promotional cards, posters and published interviews.

For current Fondren Library hours, visit:
<https://library.rice.edu/about/hours/index/#depts>