



Atlanta University Center
Robert W. Woodruff Library

The Legacy of Excellence Continues: Achievements, Digital Leadership, and Empowerment of Student Success

In the Year of the Pandemic





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As the intellectual and information “Center” of this academic village, we have always considered ourselves to be the neutral social and learning space for all AUC students. However, the COVID-19 pandemic created an emptiness in the Library that has been felt for over a year. Few students returned to campus during the Spring 2021 semester, but even that small number served to reiterate the message that we were in the midst of creating our new sense of normalcy.



The pandemic presented its own unique set of academic challenges. I’m proud to share that we were more than ready. Our prior digitization efforts allowed many of our resources to be available online for student and faculty access. We continued to offer students remote access to new collections and publications, including over 2 million pages of historic NAACP papers. We added new collections to our e-scholarship repository and expanded usability access to the Library’s online learning databases. Our Librarians also did a phenomenal job ensuring that our students and faculty received the support they needed by providing over 3,000 hours of virtual instruction and research consultations, including virtual workshops. Navigating the pandemic was not an easy task, but Library staff met the challenge and learned from that experience.

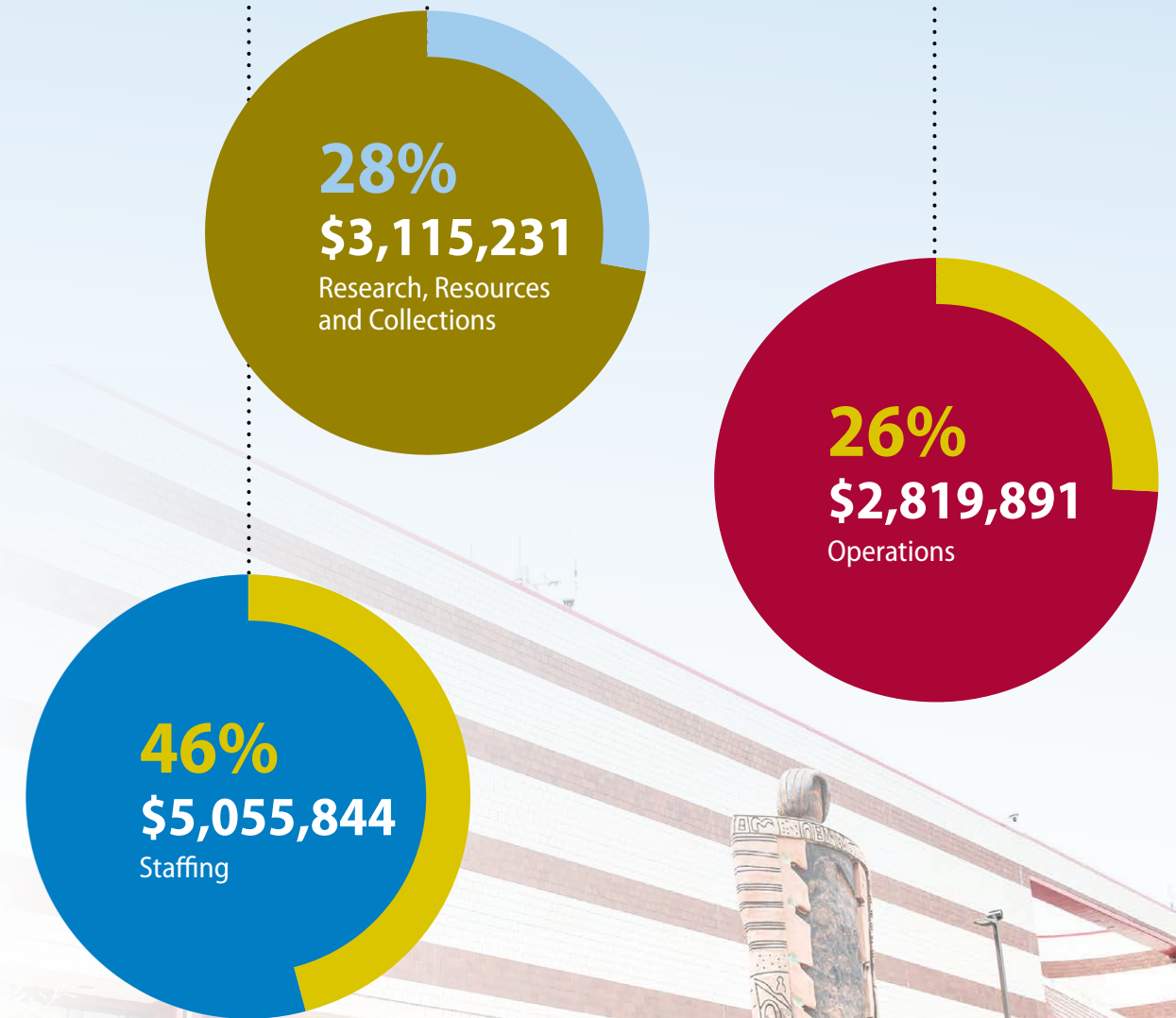
As we continue welcoming students back to the physical Library, I’m excited to see the lessons we learned fully deployed in the upcoming academic year. The past year has taught us many things, and if nothing else, it has taught us that the Library must continue being inventive and adapting to the ever changing academic needs of our member institutions. We celebrate a year that filled us with growth and challenged us to continue pursuit of our number one objective, providing excellence in all we do.

We are proud to showcase the excellence of our Library over the past year.

Sincerely,

Loretta Parham
CEO and Library Director

LIBRARY BUDGET FY 2020-2021



ENGAGEMENT

8,022
Student Population

VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION
257
Sessions Taught

VIRTUAL ORIENTATION
(New and Transfer)
3,340
Students Impacted

RESEARCH CONSULTATION
(1-on-1) Reference, On-Call & Virtual
4,751
Students Assisted

| LIBRARY IN NUMBERS | FY 2020-2021 | FY 2019-2020 |
|---|------------------|--------------|
| Library Holdings | 1,634,318 | 1,627,660 |
| Full-text downloads and database searches | 1,598,549 | 2,243,087 |
| Resources Used | 1,691,578 | 2,352,250 |
| Downloads of AUC e-scholarship | 104,880 | 274,759 |
| User interactions | 33,795 | 36,419 |
| Study room reservations | 739 | 9,669 |
| Shuttle riders serviced | 34,100 | 71,162 |
| Visits to Archives Research Center | N/A* | 296 |

*The Archives Research center closed due to COVID-19.

| COLLECTIONS | FY 2020-2021 | FY 2019-2020 |
|---|------------------|--------------|
| Print volumes | 346,021 | 345,563 |
| Databases | 323 | 321 |
| e-Journals | 163,585 | 163,585 |
| e-Books | 121,380 | 112,721 |
| AUC Thesis and Dissertations | 18,105 | 18,037 |
| Total linear feet (lf) of materials in archival collections | 9,105(lf) | 8,571 (lf) |
| CD, Videos and DVDs | 5,903 | 8,510 |
| Archival e-finding aids and digital exhibits (page views) | 83,430 | 89,853 |

| TOP DIGITAL DOWNLOADS | FY 2020-2021 | FY 2019-2020 |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| The Spelman Spotlight | 21,990 | 16,047 |
| Morehouse College Yearbooks | 13,880 | 11,187 |
| Yearbooks of Clark College and Clark Atlanta University | 13,335 | 11,727 |
| ADEPt: Yoruba | 8,883 | 2,791 |
| Spelman Messenger | 6,375 | 4,444 |
| Spelman College Yearbooks | 5,755 | 5,054 |
| Morris Brown College Yearbooks | 4,603 | 4,381 |
| The Maroon Tiger | 3,380 | 448 |
| ADEPt: Igbo | 3,041 | 821 |

NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS

20 new collections and publications added to e-scholarship repository RADAR (e.g. ITC Bachelor Papers, *Phylon*, Winter, 2020, AUCC Data Science Initiative Collection, “Black Past, Black Futures” podcast)

8,358 items digitized, including documents, photographs, scrapbooks, and audio cassette tapes

8 new archival collections digitized and published to e-scholarship repository RADAR

Awarded 1 Leadership Fellows program: Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Rare Book School Cultural Heritage Fellowship

5 new manuscript collections received in the Archives Research Center (e.g. The Joseph Echols Lowery and Evelyn Gibson Lowery Collection, Brenda H. Cole and Thomas Cole Papers, National Association of Mathematicians Records)

5,000 items digitized from the “Black Women’s Suffrage and Civic Activism Digitization Project”

Curated new Digital Exhibit titled “Student Life: A Celebration of the AUC”

Acquired digitized primary source archives, including:

- Caribbean History and Culture 1535-1920 – more than 1,200 searchable books, pamphlets, almanacs, memorabilia, etc. covering the history of the Caribbean from the 16th century to the early 20th century
- African-American Newspapers (parts IV-XIII) – insights into the cultural life and history of African Americans during the 19th century
- NAACP Papers - access to over 2 million pages of internal memos, legal briefings, and direct action summaries from national, legal, and branch offices throughout the country

Maintained **exemplary 19-hour turnaround time for article delivery** via Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Express Digital Delivery Program for Interlibrary Loan

Library staff provided 63 professional presentations, including webinars, workshops, and conferences, and published 2 staff articles

15th consecutive year of clean financial audits, with unqualified opinion rendered and no management comments

AWARDED \$754,500 IN NEW GRANT FUNDING:

- \$750,000 –The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation – Public Knowledge Grant Program
- \$2,500 - American Theological Librarian Association (ATLA) – ATLA Open Education Resources Innovation Grant
- \$1,000 - American Library Association/Google – Virtual Learning & Enhancement Mini-Grant
- \$1,000 – AUC Data Science Initiative Mini-Grant

Library Curates The Joseph Echols Lowery and Evelyn Gibson Lowery Collection

In May 2021, the AUC Woodruff Library began archiving and curating The Joseph Echols Lowery and Evelyn Gibson Lowery Collection, gifted to Morehouse College from the Lowery family and housed in the Library's Archives Research Center. Coined the "Dean of the Civil Rights Movement," Joseph Lowery, alongside his wife Evelyn, played an integral role in the Civil Rights Movement. His activism began in the 1950s and continued until his passing in May 2020. Notable achievements include heading the Alabama Civic Affairs Association in Mobile, AL, co-founding the Southern Christian Leadership Conference with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and in 2009, receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama in recognition of his lifelong commitment to human, economic, and civil rights.

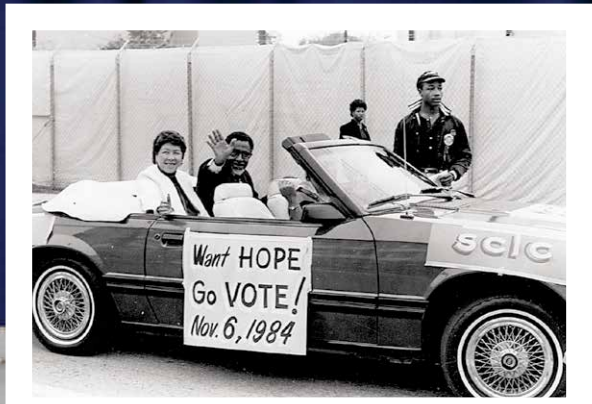
The collection contains over 400 linear feet of invaluable materials chronicling the Lowerys' work with civil and human rights leaders, both nationally and internationally. Priceless mementos found in the collection include photographs, journals, letters, awards, and travel diaries. There is also an extensive audiovisual collection with multiple tapings of Joseph Lowery's speeches and sermons, as well as print documentation of Evelyn Lowery's journey in starting the women's section of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Photos with international world leaders provide an inside look at the grandiose nature of the Lowerys' impact.

To commemorate the centennial birthday of Joseph Lowery in October 2021, the Library developed a digital exhibit featuring prominent artifacts from the collection. The exhibit and collection will be used to provide scholars, researchers, students, and the general public with an authentic understanding of the impact, sacrifice, and legacy of these iconic civil rights pioneers.

Top photo: Joseph and Evelyn Lowery, circa 1984

Middle photo: Portrait of Joseph Lowery, circa 1980

Bottom photo: Joseph Lowery and Evelyn Lowery at South Africa Protest, n.d.



Extraordinary Donation from Renowned Smithsonian Artist, Steve R. Allen



Freedom Journey



Battle of the Bayou

Renowned artist Steve R. Allen donated artworks to the AUC Woodruff Library valued at \$370,000 as part of his multimillion-dollar gifting program for HBCUs. An exceptional artist, Steve Allen has served as the official artist for eight Olympic Games, and five of his artworks are featured in the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC).

Allen's gifting collection included six limited-edition Gicleés: "Freedom Journey," of former President Barack Obama and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; "Battle of New Orleans," created for the 40th Bayou Classic; "Iola McLeod," a portrait of Allen's paternal grandmother; "Coming Full Circle," return to the 2004 Olympics (Athens); "Torino Olympique," the 2006 Winter Olympics (Italy); and "The Legend" (Hank Aaron), commemorating the 25th anniversary of Aaron's 715th record-breaking home run. The originals for these pieces were acquired by the Smithsonian NMAAHC as part of their Founding and Permanent Collection.

Allen's masterful work is a wonderful addition to the Library's Knowledge and Arts Initiative, which promotes student and faculty engagement within Library learning spaces and in the classroom.

Student Activism - The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation \$750,000 Grant with Project STAND and AUC Woodruff Library

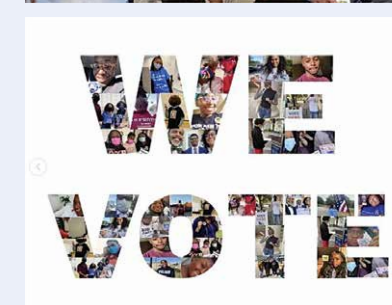
In February 2021, The AUC Woodruff Library, in partnership with Project STAND, received a generous \$750,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The grant supports a three-year project titled "Building Capacity, Ethical Documentation and Archiving of Student Activism in BIPOC Communities," a project that explores archiving social justice and activism among former and current college and university students of color. The grant is in collaboration with the University of Maryland Libraries (College Park) and the 65 Project STAND consortium member institutions.

In addition to archiving student activism, the grant also allots for the creation of archivist residencies that will create modules for teaching with primary resources on student activism in marginalized communities. We are excited to continue our partnership with Project STAND by helping to preserve the activism of college students, especially students from the Atlanta University Center.

Digital Public Libraries of America \$25,000 Grant

In May 2021, the Archives Research Center completed the \$25,000 grant from Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) for the "Black Women's Suffrage and Civic Activism Digitization Project." The grant was created to highlight the roles and experiences of Black women in the women's suffrage movement, in addition to holistically preserving Black women's history of activism.

The Archives Research Center and the Digital Services Department digitized over 5,000 items and published over 1,900 new digital objects from eight collections. The grant was a collaboration between the Library and four other institutions (Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture, Tuskegee University, the Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, and Southern California Library).



LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD:

Sustained Impact During COVID-19

COVID-19 RESPONSE DATA

During the 2020-2021 COVID-19 year, the Library's mission was to continue providing excellent services and resources to the faculty and staff of the AUC. Despite the challenges of being physically closed for six months, we were able to ensure that our constituents had the resources they needed to excel remotely.

VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION & RESEARCH SERVICES

| | FY 2020-2021 | FY 2019-2020 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Clark Atlanta University | 3,686 | 2,680 |
| Interdenominational Theological Center | 895 | 330 |
| Morehouse College | 1,839 | 1,523 |
| Spelman College | 2,214 | 1,186 |
| Total Instruction | 8,634 | 5,719 |

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS AND SCHOLARSHIP

| | FY 2020-2021 | FY 2019-2020 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| WorldCat Discovery "Page Views" (<i>Library Catalog</i>) | 218,396 | 282,143 |
| RADAR (e-scholarship repository) "Page Views" | 104,880 | 73,159 |
| Interlibrary Loan Resource Sharing Stats (Electronic) | 2,651 | 1,951 |
| Archival Finding Aids & Digital Exhibits "Page Views" | 83,430 | 75,628 |

**Access to our digital catalogs parallels access to print collections. Physical books stacks were closed and Parking Lot Pickup was utilized by graduate students, resulting in lower digital collection page views*

REMOTE LOGINS TO SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES

| | FY 2020-2021 | FY 2019-2020 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Clark Atlanta University | 21,929 | 50,699 |
| Interdenominational Theological Center | 6,079 | 4,413 |
| Morehouse College | 11,531 | 24,470 |
| Spelman College | 28,779 | 66,808 |
| *Total Logins | 68,318 | 146,390 |

*The campus closures of FY 2020-2021 influenced the number of on campus locations (i.e. the Library, AUC campus computer labs, faculty offices, student housing) for logging into online databases. As a result, we observed a lower number of remote logins to subscription databases. Faculty also took advantage of the opportunity to embed articles into their Learning Management System course pages for ease of access by students to information resources, thereby reducing need for logins.

We learned that before the pandemic, students waited until their immediate point of need (e.g. closer to exams and assignment deadlines) to engage with the Library. During the pandemic, students engaged much earlier with the Library for their instruction and information literacy needs.



PURCHASES & ADDED RESOURCES/ACCESS

| | AUGUST 2020-MAY 2021 | AUGUST 2019-MAY 2020 |
|--|--|--|
| EBook, on-Demand Purchases | \$9,879 (est.) (267 eBooks) | \$11,191.81 (322 eBooks) |
| KANOPY Streaming Videos | \$8,572.50 (56 video purchases triggered) | \$10,716 (68 video purchases triggered) |
| Academic Video Online (AVON) Database: access to over 67,000 items in anthropology, business, counseling, film, health, history, music, etc. | 1,191 views | 1,636 views |

**We pursued options to make resources easily available in the virtual environment.*

CIRCULATION SERVICES

| | FY 2020-2021 (VIRTUAL) | FY 2019-2020 (IN-PERSON) |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Clark Atlanta University | 4,620 | 105 |
| Interdenominational Theological Center | 748 | 30 |
| Morehouse College | 2,077 | 52 |
| Spelman College | 2,469 | 45 |
| Campus Totals | 9,914 | 232 |

A closer look at some of the faces behind your virtual learning support

Our Library staff worked tirelessly to ensure that AUC students, faculty, and staff maintained access to all of the resources they needed to excel. From electronic reference for students and faculty to virtual instruction, orientation, and circulation, we are proud of the innovation and resourcefulness of our Library during such an uncertain time. Here is a behind the scenes look at a few members from our staff that kept us going.



Rosaline Odom, M.S.L.S., Ph.D.
Assistant Director for Research, Learning & Technology Services



Martina Dodd, M.A.
Program Director, Curation and Object-Based Learning



Jina DuVernay, M.L.I.S., M.L.A.
Program Director, Engagement and African American Collections



Jessica Epstein, M.L.I.S.
Unit Head, Online Learning



Cliff Landis, M.L.I.S.
Digital Initiatives Librarian



Tiffany Atwater, M.A.
Assistant Head, Archives Research Center



Imani Beverly, M.L.I.S.
Education, Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice Librarian



Jordan Moore, M.L.I.S.
Reference Librarian



Brad Ost, M.L.I.S., M.A.T.S.
Assistant Department Head, Research Services



Teva Sweet, M.L.I.S.
Unit Head, Access Services



Bryan Briones, M.L.I.S.
STEM Librarian



Justin de la Cruz, M.L.I.S., M.A.
Program Director of Innovative Scholarship



Jackie Daniel, M.L.I.S.
Government Documents Librarian



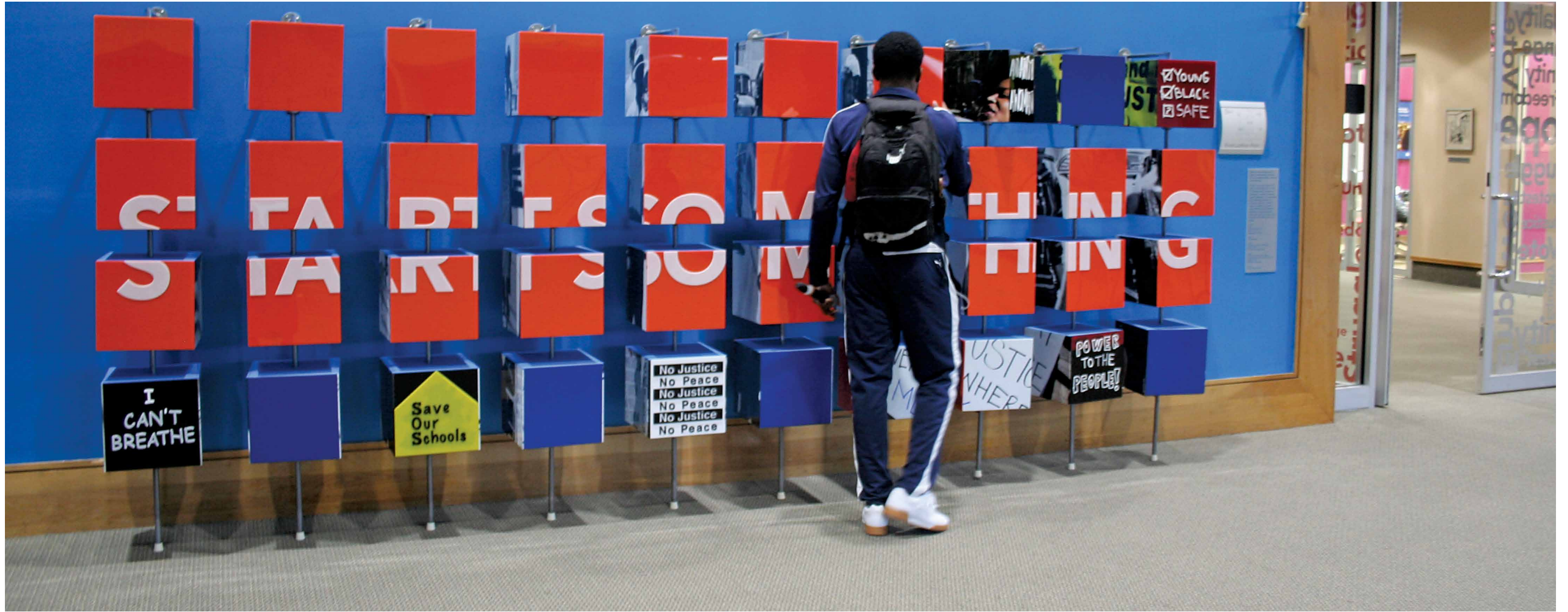
Sarah Tanner, M.A.
Assistant Director & Head, Archives Research Center



Monya Tomlinson, M.S.
Reference Librarian, Undergraduate Student Success Facilitator



Patrice Williams, M.L.I.S.
Humanities Librarian, English



Boards, Committees, and Professional Affiliations (Selected)

Academy of Certified Archivists
 American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
 American Library Association (ALA)
 American Management Association
 American Theological Library Association (ATLA), Board Member
 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)

Atlanta/ Macon Private Academic Libraries (AMPALS), Chair
 Atlanta Regional Council for Higher Education (ARCHE)
 Atlanta Studies Journal, Editorial Board
 Code4Lib Southeast
 Digital Library Federation
 EDUCAUSE, Board Member
 Educopia Institute Board Member

GALILEO Interconnected Libraries (GIL), Users Group
 Georgia Academy of Sciences
 Georgia Archives Institute, Board Chair
 Georgia Center For Nonprofits, CFO Central
 Georgia Library Association
 Georgia Society of CPAs
 HBCU Library Alliance, Digital Initiatives Committee

Heritage Emergency Response Alliance (HERA), Co-chair
 Institute of Internal Auditors
 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), Chair
 Journal of Theological Librarianship, Peer Reviewer
 Library High Tech Journal, Editorial Board
 LYRASIS, Board Member and Audit Committee Chair

National Association of African Americans in Human Resources
 National Association of College & University Business Officers (NACUBO)
 National Black MBA Association (NBMBAA)
 National Historical Publications and Records Commission, Obama Presidential Appointment

OCLC Advisory Group
 Scholarly Communication and Open Access Working Group
 Society of American Archivists
 Society of Georgia Archivists, Board Member
 Society for Human Resource Management
 Visual Resources Association

MISSION, VISION, & CORE VALUES



MISSION:

The Library partners with member academic institutions* of the AUC; providing information management, instruction and access to a variety of global information resources acquired and organized in support of teaching and learning, scholarship and cultural preservation of the Atlanta University Center.

VISION:

To reflect the excellence of our member institutions by being the first and best choice for our users in their search for information.

CORE VALUES:

Quality
Service for all
Customers

Competence
in Services
and Staff

Respect for
the Individual

High
Expectations
for
Performance

About the Library

Established in 1982, the Atlanta University Center (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library is named in honor of the late Robert Winship Woodruff, philanthropist and former CEO of The Coca-Cola Company. The Library serves the nation's largest consortium of historically black colleges and universities, which includes* Clark Atlanta University, the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College and Spelman College. In addition to the aesthetic benefits of this state-of-the-art facility, the Library has evolved into a model repository of information resources and a front-runner in the innovative delivery of digital resources. The AUC Woodruff Library is the winner of the 2016 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award in the university category from the Association of Collegiate and Research Libraries (ACRL). Library CEO Loretta Parham was named the ACRL 2017 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The Library is a nonprofit corporation under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code and operates exclusively for educational and charitable purposes as defined by Section 501(c)3 of the IRS Code. It is governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees.

The AUC Woodruff Library is also home to the Archives Research Center, which is noted for its holdings of materials on the African American experience, including the John Henrik Clarke Africana and African American Collection, the Henry P. Slaughter and Countee Cullen Memorial Collection, and the Southern Education Foundation Collection. In addition, at the request of Morehouse College, the library serves as custodian of the Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection, as well as custodian of the Joseph Echols Lowery and Evelyn Gibson Lowery Collection.



Atlanta University Center
Robert W. Woodruff Library

Library Board of Trustees: 2020-2021

Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell - Chair
President, Spelman College

Dr. George T. French, Jr.
President, Clark Atlanta University

Dr. David A. Thomas
President, Morehouse College

Reverend Matthew Wesley Williams
President, Interdenominational
Theological Center

Ms. Kate Nevins
Member – At – Large
Executive Director, LYRASIS (Retired)

Dr. Jamil Zainaldin
Member – At – Large
President, Georgia Humanities Council
(Retired)

Mr. Henry Zigtema
Member – At – Large
Chair, Finance Committee
Partner, Ernst & Young LLP (Retired)

Dr. Alison Ligon
Ex-Officio
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Assistant Professor of English
Morehouse College

Dr. Kendrick Brown
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Provost and Vice President for
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Morehouse College

Mrs. Loretta Parham
Ex-Officio
CEO & Library Director



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