



Open Graves/Open Archives: An Ongoing Dialogue Across Disciplines



Logo for the website, haverford.edu/open-gravesopen-archives-ethics-and-evidence.

► BY BRIE GETTLESON AND
ADAM ROSENBLATT

In April of this year, Magill Library, Haverford's Peace, Justice, and Human Rights (PJHR) program, and Bard College's Human Rights Project jointly sponsored a two-day symposium entitled, "Open Graves/Open Archives: Ethics and Evidence." The symposium aimed to create dialogue between people who work on two different sites of evidence: mass graves and archival collections. Despite their differences, these two types of evidentiary archives are undergoing similar transformations. The growth of digital archives and the digital humanities, on the one hand, and of innovations such as DNA analysis and the global spread of the forensic sciences, on the other, raise new questions about ethical practice in both fields. Both archives and forensics have a clear imperative toward preservation and documentation as inherent goods, but these impulses may contradict cultural beliefs about care for bodies, privacy, and the sacred; or they may prolong what is already

unbearable trauma in the aftermath of violence.

We brought together a wide range of scholars and practitioners, including: Jane Anderson, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Museum Studies (New York University); Lucy Easthope, Senior Lecturer and Teaching Fellow in Mass Fatalities and Pandemics (University of Lincoln and University of Bath); Jaymelee J. Kim, Assistant Professor of Forensic Science (University of Findlay); Theresa Polk, Archivist for post-custodial and digital initiatives (University of Texas, Austin); Danielle Riou, Research Associate and Associate Director of the Human Rights Project (Bard College); Sarah Wagner, Associate Professor of Anthropology (George Washington University); and Jaqueline Wernimont, Assistant Professor of English (Arizona State University). Riou kicked off the event in the Provost's house by sharing some selections of the 1,800 hours of broadcast footage from the Milosevic Trial Public Archive, a collaborative project for which the symposium

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From the Librarian

► BY TERRY SNYDER

The Haverford College Libraries

Exhibitions play an important role in the Libraries' work to support



curricular and co-curricular learning. The first of our fall semester exhibitions, *Ying Li: geographies*, reinforces curricular priorities

for Fine Arts faculty by exposing students to this extraordinary work.

Ying Li: geographies, was curated by Faye Hirsch, author, editor and widely-regarded art critic. The show included more than 100 paintings by Li, an internationally-acclaimed painter and Professor of Fine Arts here at Haverford, and it spanned two galleries on campus: the Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery and the Sharpless Gallery in Magill Library. Li's landscape paintings feature a diversity of *plein air* scenes including locations from the Swiss Alps, the American Rockies, Cranberry Island, and New York City among others. The work is breathtakingly beautiful, and the exhibition represented a wonderful opportunity for viewers to experience the profound joy and inspiration of Li's art.

Importantly, the exhibit also featured a program of music that

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From the Librarian

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reflects a 20-year collaboration between Li and Curtis Cacioppo, Grammy-nominated American Composer and Ruth Marshall Magill Professor of Music at Haverford. Cacioppo offered the U.S. premier of *Synaesthesia I*, which he spontaneously composed in response to Ying Li's work. It was a rare moment where students and members from the campus and broader communities experienced the coalescence of two accomplished artists presenting their work at once and in relationship to the other's. I'd like to recognize Bruce Bumbarger, Libraries Conservator, for his contributions to staging the exhibit and reception.

As Li's exhibit moved to Wilkes University, we returned to our successful model of student-curated exhibits. Our fall exhibits include:

- *Consent to Be Seen: Portraits* by Riva Lehrer, curated by Courtney Carter '17 and Kristin Lindgren, Director of College Writing Center and Visiting Assistant Professor of Writing.

Librarian of the College
Terry Snyder

Connections Editor
Norm Medeiros

Contributors

Christopher Bechen
Brie Gettleson
Sarah Horowitz
Mike Persick
Adam Rosenblatt
Margaret Schaus
Emily Thaisrivongs

Connections is available
on the web at

library.haverford.edu/connections

- *A/O (Céspedes Case)* focused on the work of Artists Helena Cabello and Ana Carceller. It includes photographs and a video installation centered on Elena/o de Céspedes. Céspedes was born a mixed-race slave woman in 15th century Granada, Spain, but lived as a man and worked as a surgeon. The exhibit supports Israel Burshatin's students in his class on "Gender Dissidence in Hispanic Writing."
- Students in Erin Schoneveld's "Japanese Modernism" class

curated an exhibit of our Japanese photographs.

- Students in Jeanne Vacarro's "Bring Your Own Body" class curated an exhibit of artist Tuesday Smillie's work.

Students are also currently working on larger exhibitions that will appear in 2017. Watch this space!

It's a great privilege and pleasure for library colleagues to partner with College community members on such vital work!

-Terry Snyder is Librarian
of the College



Ruth Marshall Magill Professor of Music, Curt Cacioppo performing his new piano sonata, *Synaesthesia I*, at a reception for "Ying Li: geographies," the work of Ying Li, Professor of Fine Arts. Sharpless Gallery, Magill Library, September 21, 2016. Photo courtesy of Victoria Merino '20.



Adventures in Linked Data: Laying the Groundwork

► BY EMILY THAISRIVONGS

Over the last three years, Digital Scholarship and Quaker & Special Collections have collaborated to produce three ongoing projects that draw on primary source material related to Quakers in the Philadelphia area. These collections include the “Cope Evans Project” at cope.haverford.edu, a collection of letters and papers from two prominent Quaker families in Philadelphia written between the mid-18th and early-20th centuries; “Quakers & Mental Health” at qmh.haverford.edu, the archives of Friends Hospital, a mental health hospital founded by Philadelphia Quakers in 1813; and “Beyond Penn’s Treaty,” a collection of letters and diaries written by Quakers between 1756 and the 19th century about relations with Native Americans. This last digital project is scheduled for release later this fall.

Because these projects feature overlapping persons, places, organizations, dates, and topics, we are planning to provide users the means to discover and draw new connections among them. We envision a portal where users can enter a person’s name and retrieve biographical information about the person, along with primary source material, data visualizations, and other information sources that reference the person. We face a challenge, however, in that each project is mounted in a separate database. As a result, users cannot currently search for information across these projects. To overcome



Letter from Anna Cope Evans to Francis Reeve Cope, September 1, 1883.

this problem, we are designing and applying a linked data solution.

When the World Wide Web was created, it consisted solely of HTML pages connected by hyperlinks. The relationships between these pages were only understood by humans. With linked data, web pages can be understood not only by humans but also machines, making it easier for users to find connections across the web. The building block of linked data is the Resource Description Framework (RDF), a model for structuring data to define relationships among entities on the web.

This past summer, Digital Scholarship intern Maddy Hodges ’18

converted nearly 6,000 lines of static data from the “Cope Evans Project” into linked data. Maddy also began to develop the interface for users to query these data. Future steps include publishing the data from the remaining two Quaker projects as linked data and opening our data so that it can be reused and connected to the larger web.

Peer institutions with comparable data have shown interest in our experience with this project. As more institutions transition to linked data, library data will become more visible and increase in value.

*-Emily Thaisrivongs is
Metadata Librarian*

The Richard Oulahan Latin American Labor History Collection

► BY MARGARET SCHAUS

While news from Latin America appears regularly in the headlines, researchers are also looking more closely at recent histories and the roles played by the United States in the region. Thanks to gifts from Richard V. Oulahan '67, students and scholars can learn more about developments in Central American politics and economics from the 1960s through the 1990s.

For more than twenty years Oulahan lived and worked principally in Honduras and El Salvador where he was the Country Program Director for the American Institute of Free

Labor Development (AIFLD), an organization sponsored by the AFL-CIO. Materials already at Magill Library include correspondence, reports, speeches, and interviews with labor leaders, politicians, and cultural figures. The materials concern not only El Salvador and Honduras, but the rest of Central America as well as the Andean countries. Much of this material has been digitized and is available without restriction in the Richard Oulahan Latin American Labor History Collection.¹

Readers can see in detail how AIFLD representatives planned initiatives, developed training documents, and

evaluated results. Candid comments on office memos indicate the staff input involved. Central American voices can be heard in magazine articles, correspondence, and recordings like the interview with MAGMA Steel employees in 1995 who are advocating a better contract with respect to communication from management and job stability. One speaker observes that human progress is always made when groups negotiate. In another interview a woman named Carmelina recalls moving to San Salvador as a child and working in factories during the Civil War period when there was so much violence.



Organizers and workers attend a conference in India in June 1974. Richard Oulahan is seated on the right.



Participants in a Central American residential class discuss agricultural development.

In addition to the documents and interviews which have been digitized, Oulahan has donated parts of his working library and that of his mentor, Dr. Jose Maria Mendez Jr., to the Haverford Libraries. These collections provide context for the digital materials in addition to strengthening the Libraries' Latin American holdings. Mendez was a lawyer in El Salvador who defended student protesters and was rector of the University of El Salvador. He and his father were involved in judicial reform and politics despite receiving threats from death squads. Books and reports from the

Mendez library cover the subjects of human rights, politics, law, and history, but also include surprises such as poetry, novels and 1920s literary magazines. Documents concerning legal cases in which Mendez took part are now archived in Haverford's Special Collections.

Richard Oulahan has made multiple gifts from his collections to Haverford. The book titles deal with labor, politics, economics, social movements, and history as well as religion in Central America in particular, with some coverage of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and

Peru. The breadth of document types is quite remarkable, ranging from academic studies by North American scholars to conference proceedings on land use from Central America. Many pamphlets intended for educational use now act as eloquent primary sources, such as the comic book on strikes issued by a populist group in Bolivia in 1983. Titles like this make the Oulahan Collection a truly unique resource.

-Margaret Schaus is Lead Research and Instruction Librarian

1. The Richard V. Oulahan '67 collection is available at thesis.haverford.edu/dspace/handle/10066/12020

Staff News & Notes

► COMPILED BY MIKE PERSICK

Dawn Heckert, Circulation Services & Building Coordinator, was appointed a Change Management Ambassador for the College's Workday Implementation Project. Change Management Ambassadors serve as intermediaries between their departments and the Project Team that is implementing the Workday system for finance and human resources. Ambassadors will keep colleagues informed about the progress of the project, help colleagues understand the changes in procedures and policy, and gather input and feedback from colleagues to pass on to the Project Team.

Sarah Horowitz, Curator of Rare Books & Manuscripts and Head of Quaker & Special Collections, with Ashley Foster, visiting assistant professor of writing, and former Haverford librarian Laurie Allen, authored "Changing the Subject: Archives, Technology, and Radical Counter-Narratives of Peace," which appeared in the journal *Radical Teacher*. The article discusses Foster's class and the exhibit *Testimonies in Art and Action*, which had appeared in Magill Library. Sarah also presented "From Student to Career, or, What Comes Next: a Year-Long Post-Baccalaureate Experience," about Haverford's grant-funded cataloging position, at the International Federation of Library Associations Information Literacy Section Preconference in August.

Jeremiah Mercurio, Research & Instruction Librarian, and his co-author, Daniel Gabelman, published a scholarly edition of and critical introduction to G.K. Chesterton's illustrated fairy tale "Prince Wild-fire" in the *Journal of Inklings Studies* 6:1 (April 2016).

Mike Persick, Head of Acquisitions & Serials, was invited by ProQuest to serve on the Advisory Board for Academic Complete, an e-book package to which many college libraries subscribe, including all three Tri-College libraries.

NEW STAFF:

Ash Acevedo joined the Libraries in May of this year as Quaker & Special Collections Assistant. She



received her B.A. in art history from the University of South Florida in 2012 and is planning to pursue a master's degree in library science in the future.

Ash has been thoroughly enjoying gaining experience in the field and learning about our patrons' rich and diverse research interests. In her spare time she enjoys barreling through her massive book collection, exploring weird and wonderful Philly, and stalking Edgar Allan Poe's ghost.

Rachel Hochberg joined the Libraries in August as Senior Administrative Assistant to the Librarian of the College. She was previously a children's bookseller and administrative assistant for the Association of Booksellers

for Children. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 2004 with a



B.A. in English and creative writing and from Simmons College in 2008 with an M.A. in children's literature. In her free time she participates in projects (currently

a radio drama) with a Bryn Mawr alum-based amateur theater company, after which she collapses in front of Netflix with some crocheting in hand. She is delighted to have made her way back to the Bi-Co community.

Andrew Janco is our new Digital Scholarship Librarian. He holds a Ph.D. in History from the University of Chicago where he studied the history of refugee protections. Andrew is currently working on a master's degree in library science at the University of Illinois



at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to working at Haverford, he was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Connecticut Human Rights Institute where he taught the history of human rights, humanitarianism, and the laws of war. Andrew is currently working to develop digital tools and services for asylum clinics using open source intelligence techniques. Originally from Colorado, he loves mountains, hiking, and open spaces.

-Mike Persick is Head of Acquisitions & Serials



New Acquisitions in Quaker & Special Collections

► BY SARAH HOROWITZ

As highlighted in previous newsletters, materials in Quaker & Special Collections are used by a wide variety of classes, students, and scholars. We continually strive to build and add new materials which will meet the needs of researchers. Some particularly exciting new collections have arrived at Haverford recently, a few of which are featured below.

The Shipley-Strawbridge family papers cover the lives of interrelated Quaker families in the Philadelphia area. Scrapbooks from the 1930s to the 1970s record family events such as marriages, deaths, and graduations; news clippings about national and world affairs; and materials from social and philanthropic events. There are also a large number of letters between Francis R. Strawbridge and Anna E. Shipley, which document their courtship and marriage. The two wrote each other frequently, sometimes late one evening and then again first thing in the morning. These materials will help extend the temporal coverage of our world-renown Quaker collection further into the 20th century.

Potential new directions for research are provided by the Lewis Becker Print Collection of the traditional music of Ireland, Scotland, and the United States. This collection contains several different published versions of

ballads and traditional stories, allowing researchers to track changes to these over time. Of particular interest is a large number of late 19th and early 20th century songsters, small pamphlets with illustrated covers that include songs on a certain topic. These might be newly popular songs or songs which could be performed at an event such as a minstrel show or a union rally.

Mike Disfarmer was a local photographer in Heber Springs, Arkansas from the 1920s through 1950s. For many years, his photographs were forgotten and unknown. These portraits of ordinary people, mainly taken in Disfarmer's studio, are solemn and show little interaction among the sitters. More than 80 of these wonderful photographic evocations of life in the American South during the Depression are now part of the collection, complementing works by other photographers of that period such as Walker Evans and Lewis Hine.

All these materials are available for use by researchers, and we hope that they will advance current avenues of research or open new ones.

-Sarah Horowitz is Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts & Head of Quaker and Special Collections

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members offered questions, criticisms, and advice. The group was invited to consider how archives might allow us to think differently about the life of evidence over time. Testimony and photographs change tenor when viewed through historical distance, rather than in real time.

Day two centered around a set of interrelated questions or concerns about what counts as evidence, what is the value of a paradigm of ever more "openness," what vulnerabilities are exposed, and finally, what do/can we do about it? About the question of vulnerability, two of the participants, Kim and Easthope, highlighted the difficult position of forensic practitioners: the ideal goal of helping communities and the demands of policy or practicality frequently come into conflict.

Open Graves/Open Archives concluded with a public double keynote session in the Philips Wing of Magill Library. Kim shared her talk, "Evidence of What?: How the 'Dead' Threaten to Become Alive in Canadian Transitional Justice." Polk delivered her remarks on "Post-Custodial Archiving in Latin America: Seeking a New Paradigm for International Archival Collaboration." Both speakers asked listeners to consider notions of evidentiary ethics of ownership for a wide array of community stakeholders, particularly in contexts of transitional or post-conflict justice.

Looking ahead, members of the symposium are currently in conversation about a future event or edited volume that may emanate from the conversation. The authors will be presenting a collaborative paper reflecting on the event at the 2016 American Anthropological Association Annual Conference in November in Minneapolis.

-Brie Gettleton is Social Science Librarian

-Adam Rosenblatt is Visiting Assistant Professor of Peace, Justice, and Human Rights

Queer History at Haverford

► BY CHRISTOPHER BECHEN

This summer, I had the privilege

to be funded by the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship to conduct research in Haverford's Special Collections. The goal of my research was to find materials in the College Archives related to queer history at Haverford, and to digitize and upload these items to Omeka, a digital exhibition platform. These items could then be supplemented with clips from oral histories recorded with alumni.

I am astonished by the depth and breadth of information I have gathered. At the onset of this project, I had no sense of how much information the Archives contained on the history of LGBT students. I ended up digitizing approximately 350 items. I expected

to conduct just a few interviews, but instead held 24 with graduates ranging from the classes of 1965 to 2014.

The material ranges from the trivial (speakers that visited and dances held) to the groundbreaking (assault, students being threatened with conversion therapy, and a campus-wide tradition that has its roots in pride celebrations.) What's clear is the resiliency of queer students at Haverford. Despite having difficulties, students still managed to live their lives in ways that are truly extraordinary, especially in light of their circumstances. One of my favorite items in this collection is a group of communal diaries that were kept in the lounge of an LGBT affinity club. Entries were written by

various students and provide poems, drawings, and random musings on life at Haverford as a queer student. Often times, writers reach out directly to the audience of the diary. At one point, someone writes "YO-21st CENTURY QUAKER: We're Here. We Exist." The power and import of this work warrants understanding and deserves celebration.

The project website, titled *That Which is Renamed, but Always Remains: An Archival Representation of LGBT+ History at Haverford*, will launch later this fall. Keep an eye on the Libraries' website and other campus promotions for the link.

-Christopher Bechen '18 is a
Growth and Structure of Cities major