

# Friends of the Library News

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## Focus on the Friends

This panoramic shot of the Friends of the Library Board gives a broad perspective, but each member brings his or her individual viewpoint, as well as unique talents, to the organization. This issue of the News features three Board members: Chair Sophie Lee, Vice-Chair Bruce Christian, and student representative (and future librarian) Devan Donaldson.

### Devan Donaldson

Devan, student representative on the FOTL Board, has had an outstanding career at William & Mary. A history major, Devan is also an accomplished singer and performer. He had the starring role of Coalhouse Walker in last winter's Sinfonicon production of *Ragtime* (the musical) and performed with the Gentlemen of the College (men's a cappella group) whom he persuaded to serenade the Friends of the Library Board at the unseemly hour of eight in the morning! Devan will be attending graduate school in library and information science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall. For Devan's story in his own words, please turn to his letter on page four.

*Friends of the Library Board members are pictured above.*

*Standing, left to right: Devan Donaldson, Ed Coco, Bill Neal, Ronnee Taylor, Vince Haley, Karlene Jennings, Joe Alexander, Bruce Christian, Kay Domine, John Powers, Scott Nelson, Rhian Horgan, Audra Lalley, Ron Monark, Elaine Cline, Fred Ward, Ann Koch, Susan McGrath, Debbie Edwards, Apryl Motley*

*Seated, left to right: Susie Farrington, Barbara Smith, Dottie Gabig, Connie McCarthy, Chuck Redding, Marilyn Brown, Sophie Lee*

*Not pictured: Jeanie Knigin, Lee Olesen, Art Seder*

### Bruce Christian

Bruce (W&M Class of 1973) is currently Vice Chairman of N. B. Handy Company, a 115-year-old wholesale distributor with offices from Baltimore to Orlando. N. B. Handy deals in HVAC, roofing, machinery and metals—seemingly a far cry from libraries! However, while at W&M, Bruce worked in Swem Library's Circulation Department, and during graduate school at Tulane, worked in the Latin American Library. As Bruce says, "The library has always been special to me."

Bruce continues, "I'm not real sure how I got on the Friends Board other than I was asked if I would be willing to serve—to me, a key point. Sometimes all it takes is for someone to ask." Bruce not only serves on the Board as Vice-Chair, but also leads the Development Committee, which focuses on areas, projects and ideas that will increase support for Swem. "We suggest the goal for the Board's gift along with ways to increase funding and promote and encourage interest in Swem. We are focused on the future. It will be difficult to leave the Board next year. It has been a quick, rewarding and fun five years so far."

Bruce's commitment to Swem is further expressed in these words: "I feel very strongly that we now have this magnificent building that invites people to come. We need to strengthen the financial foundation of the library for the future." He backs up his words with contributions for Swem Library's most pressing needs as well as the critical area of collections, which have suffered from significant state cutbacks in recent years.

### Sophie Lee

After graduating from W&M in 1990 with a psychology degree, Sophie "had no clue" what to do next. She went to work for her father's company, Allied Technology Group, which expanded during her time there from six employees (including Sophie) to over four hundred. In 2003 Sophie purchased a small company, RL Network Services Corporation, since renamed AMSAQ, which works on projects ranging from network systems support to program review and policy analysis.

Like many grads, Sophie didn't actively participate in W&M alumni events. However, at Homecoming one year, current and former Board member Marilyn Brown suggested that Sophie participate in FOTL. "I agreed and have been firmly entrenched ever since!" says Sophie.

Sophie continues, "It is hard not to be excited about William & Mary and Swem Library. So much is going on and students and faculty have such amazing opportunities on campus for professional and personal development. I believe Swem is an integral part of that opportunity. The availability of information is a vital part of the college experience. The added benefit of having that information housed in a great building doesn't hurt! The FOTL Board promotes the experience and value of Swem through fundraising, sponsorship of events, and simple word of mouth. The Friends has grown into a more active voice for an entity that has no designated body of affiliation in the way an academic department does. My hope is that the Board continues to realize its potential in promoting the Swem experience."

## Swem hosts international visitors



Students may travel lengthy distances to attend universities of their choice, but usually library staff stay put. However, during 2006 Swem Library will host two librarians who'll be traveling quite a ways to get here! For two weeks in July, Sharlene Harris, Librarian of the St. Thomas Campus of the University of the Virgin Islands, will visit Swem as part of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Library Alliance exchange program. In cooperation with ASERL (the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries), the HBCU Library Alliance hosts an exchange between institutions so that HBCU librarians have an opportunity to study issues of importance at their libraries. Ms. Harris' interest is to foster relationships between the library and

the information technology department on her campus. Swem Library's strong association with IT on the W&M campus will provide an excellent model for her study. The program also includes a site visit by the participating ASERL library dean to the HBCU library.

In October, Swem will host Angelika Brauns of the University of Lueneburg in Germany. Ms. Brauns will primarily be observing operations in Swem's Acquisitions and Reference departments as part of an internship required for the Master's Degree in Library Science at the Humboldt-University in Berlin. Ms. Brauns will be at Swem Library for about six weeks, so she'll return to Germany very familiar with Swem and with United States library policies and issues.

Swem welcomes both international visitors, not only so they can learn from us, but so that we can learn from them.

## Swem "Pretenders" support Relay for Life

Seated, left to right:  
Deloris Thomas,  
Debby Weiss,  
Karen Berquist,  
Norma Southard,  
Pat Van Zandt,  
Cyndi Mack,  
Cynthia Dellaposta  
Standing, left to right:  
Berna Heyman,  
Beth Brown,  
Carol McAllister,  
Corey McDonough,  
Katherine McKenzie,  
Cindy Sadler,  
Connie McCarthy,  
Cay Davis,  
David Morales,  
Don Welsh  
Not pictured:  
Delores Lee,  
Morlie Young



A team from Swem Library participated in the campus-wide Relay for Life on April 8-9, 2006 in support of the American Cancer Society. Nineteen Swem staff members made up one of only two non-student teams in the Relay. The "Pretenders to the Throne" (named after Swem's famous—or infamous—newsletter posted in the library's bathrooms) enthusiastically raised funds through bake sales, contra dances, and beer and food tastings. The Pretenders were so successful that they earned the honor of top fundraising team, contributing almost \$5,000 to the over \$50,000 raised by the W&M Relay. Although the actual Relay dates turned out to be among the coldest and soggiest of the spring, team members marched all night. They all agreed that the Relay was a most rewarding experience, not only in earning money for a worthy cause, but for a chance to be more involved with student groups on campus. Watch for the Pretenders again in 2007.

### The Campaign for William & Mary — Race for the finish!

The goal is in sight! As of May 2006, Swem Library has raised \$13 million in private support as part of the overall Campaign for William and Mary. If you're ready to make your contribution, please contact the Swem Development Office today (757-221-3060 or swedev@wm.edu). A number of naming opportunities and exciting projects are still available. Help Swem Library sustain its mission—to support the teaching and research needs of the College of William and Mary.

## Dear Friends:

Spring on campus always brings the excitement of beautiful weather, flowers and trees in bloom, and the fast pace of the spring semester heading towards the end of the academic year. It has been particularly busy in Swem Library this spring as we complete our first full year in our renovated space. Compared with the previous academic year, we have seen an increase of over 10% in the number of visitors to Swem. Our Media Center, on the Botetourt Gallery level, opened in January. The Center has definitely captured the imagination and creativity of our students and faculty. Equipment is in constant use to create videos for class projects, to capture a spring break project in Tanzania for AIDS Tanzania, or to create documentaries about campus organizations. A music faculty member used a media studio with her classes in film scoring. The five media studios that are fully equipped were used 845 times during the Center's first semester of operation. The good news is spreading about the Media Center.

We've seen many admissions office tours come into the library. I've taken the opportunity to stand in the back and listen to the student tour guides talk about Swem. I've heard these guides proclaim their excitement about the "new" Swem. They are enthusiastic about the Media Center, the ability to use group studies, and to study in the pleasant environment. Swem is serving as a great recruitment tool for the College. As the campus renovates around us, we're creating a vision of the future of W&M.

Most of you have read about or perhaps participated in the inauguration of Gene Nichol as our President and the installation of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor as our Chancellor on April 7. We were thrilled that the Swem Special Collections Research Center was the site of Justice O'Connor's first visit to campus. The College hosted a reception in the shadow of Chief Justice Burger's recreated Supreme Court office for the Chancellor's Circle on the evening before the investiture. Justice O'Connor enjoyed seeing pictures of Lady Thatcher and Justice Burger as well as a snapshot taken of her and the Chief Justice when they first met.

As we enter the summer months, we begin thinking about the fall semester. We use the summer to plan for the fall: we revise our materials, we evaluate our programs and services, we debrief on how the new building functioned in its first year. And we stop to take a deep breath and enjoy the successes of the past year! Thank you for your support which has made so much possible!

*Connie K. McCarthy*

## New Special Collections Research Center Director

We're delighted to announce that Dr. Beatriz Hardy, Director of the H. Furlong Baldwin Library at the Maryland Historical Society, will become the Director of Swem Library's Special Collections Research Center on August 1.

Bea holds a doctorate in history from the University of Maryland, with a specialty in the colonial history of the Chesapeake Bay. Bea has also served as Outreach and Program Coordinator for National History Day, promoting the teaching and learning of history in America's schools. She will hold a joint appointment as Lecturer in History at W&M.

Bea looks forward to leading the SCRC. She states, "What attracted me to the job is the chance to transform Special Collections into a learning lab for the students and a showplace for the campus. The new facility provides a great opportunity to change the way people view and use Special Collections."

We look forward to welcoming Bea to the campus and to the staff.

### Challenging all Friends

Swem needs to raise \$100,000 for its electronic collections by June 30, 2007 to receive an anonymous matching challenge gift of an additional \$100,000. Electronic collections (books, journals, primary source materials and databases) have become vital for today's students and faculty. Collections needed to support the teaching and research needs of the College include such diverse titles as *Early American Imprints Series II* (primary resources covering early 19th-century America) and neuroscience journal backfiles from Science Direct. Fred Ward '54, Friends of the Library Board member Emeritus, is coordinating this important effort. For more information or to support this campaign, contact the Swem Development Office (swedev@wm.edu or 757-221-3060).

### Friends of the Library News

Sophie Lee, Chair, Friends of the Library  
Connie McCarthy, Dean of University Libraries  
Susan Riggs, Pat Van Zandt, Editors  
Karen McCluney, Photos and Graphic Design

## Thomas Jefferson needs you (to adopt a book)!

Can you help us preserve the work of our third president? James Monroe and Booker T. Washington also require assistance. Books by these authors and more are in dire need of conservation, and you can play a role. Your donation of \$325 will enable us to repair one of the books listed below and to save it for posterity. To recognize your generosity, we will place a bookplate with your name in your chosen title. To choose one of the titles below, or for more information on how to help, call the Swem Library Development Office at 757-221-3060.

R.L. Dabney. *Life and Campaigns of Lieutenant-General Thomas J. Jackson*. New York, 1866. This biography of Stonewall Jackson belonged to Jefferson Davis.

General W. B. Hazen. *A Narrative of Military Service*. Boston, 1885. With an inscription from the author to General Joseph E. Johnston.

Thomas Jefferson. *An Appendix to the Notes on Virginia Relative to the Murder of Logan's Family*. Philadelphia, 1800. Given by the author to St. George Tucker.

*The Merchant's Companion: or, Trader's Sure Guide*. Glasgow, 1778. Owned by Peyton Short, this commodities guide contains tables valuing goods. Peyton Short attended William and Mary 1780-1781.

James Monroe. *The Memoir of James Monroe, Esquire, Relating to his Unsettled Claims upon the People and Government of the United States*. Charlottesville, 1828. An autobiographical account by James Monroe of accounts he wanted to settle. Bears inscription "To N. P. Trist from J. M."

G.C. Swallow. *Geographical Report of the Country along the Line of the South-western Branch on the Pacific Railroad, State of Missouri*. St. Louis, 1859. A gift to Matthew Fontaine Maury, noted naval officer, oceanographer and meteorologist.

Booker T. Washington. *The Future of the American Negro*. Boston, 1899. A gift from the author to Greenville H. Norcross.



## Open letter to the Friends of the Library and Swem staff:



“When I began my tenure as a student representative for the Friends of the Library Board here at Swem Library over a year ago, the thought of being a librarian had never crossed my mind. I was just so thrilled that Dr. Fred Ward recommended me for the position. I told him that I would

love to be a part of the organization.

My experience as a board member allowed me to see the library from a macro- as opposed to a micro-view. What were the needs of the Library? What funding issues were necessary to help Swem Library provide the most cutting-edge services and technology to students, faculty, and staff of the twenty-first century? How can the library as a whole move forward and how can current Board members be a part of this? How can we attract new Library Board members?

As a Communications and Outreach Committee member, I contributed to discussions concerning how best to branch out to alumni about who the Friends of the Library Board are and what they can do to be involved. I felt that my ideas and concerns were heard and appreciated by other committee members.

My experience as a student representative for the Friends of the Library Board inspired me to consider the field of library science. I had no idea of the many roles librarians played and just how dynamic the profession was. I wanted to know more.

I spoke with Dean Connie McCarthy about my interest in library science and told her that I would like to apply to library school, but I was concerned because I didn't have any previous library experience. She was very supportive of my interest in library science and made me aware of an internship that Swem Library was going to have available the next semester. I applied for the position and got it!

On my first day of work as an intern, I came eager to learn about the profession. From that moment on, I was embraced by a cohort of the most dedicated, supportive, and professional people I have ever met in my life.

In one of my experiences, I, along with the help of a Swem Library cataloger, created a catalog record for a book. Also, as part of my internship, I was a teaching assistant in librarian Paul Showalter's course, Digital Information Literacy. Paul allowed me to assist in teaching lessons concerning citation management software and presenting Power Point presentations. My love of history fueled my interest in archives and special collections. I met with archivists at Swem who allowed me to gain insight into archival collection policies, finding aids, and records management.

By the middle of the internship calendar my experiences as a library intern assured me that library school was what I wanted to do. I applied to two schools: Simmons College and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Based on my academic record and the promise both schools felt I had in the field of library science, I was accepted at both institutions and offered scholarships.

After visiting the schools, I decided that the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was where I wanted to make my next academic home. I was offered a research assistantship including medical health insurance, a fellowship, and tuition-remission! I was thrilled!

I graduated on May 14, 2006 from the College of William and Mary and on May 16, 2006 I began graduate courses in the School of Information and Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill. Starting early will allow me the class spacing I need during the final year of the two-year program to dedicate to my master's thesis. I already have ideas about studying the development of collection policies at public and private institutions throughout North Carolina.

I will greatly miss the Friends of the Library Board and the staff at Swem Library. You all have made such a big impact on me and my future. I cannot wait to be a member of the Friends of the Library Board as an alumnus of the college one day!”

Most Sincerely,  
Devan Donaldson, Class of 2006

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