

# UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES

A portrait of Dana Rooks, an older woman with short, wavy grey hair, looking upwards and to the left with a slight smile. She has her arms crossed and is wearing a light-colored blazer over a dark top. A circular brooch with a geometric design is pinned to her left lapel. The background is a solid teal color.

## DANA ROOKS: A RETROSPECTIVE

.....

SPRING 2015





TWO LONG-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE LIBRARIES CELEBRATED THEIR RETIREMENTS RECENTLY. PAT BOZEMAN (LEFT) AND YOLANDA RODRIGUEZ WITH DANA ROOKS AT THEIR RECEPTIONS.

# CONTENTS

## 2. NEWS BRIEFS

## 3. NEW TO UH LIBRARIES

## 4. FEATURE DANA ROOKS: A RETROSPECTIVE

## 8. LIBRARIAN NEWS

DEAN OF LIBRARIES AND  
ELIZABETH D. ROCKWELL CHAIR  
DANA ROOKS

SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN  
LINDA THOMPSON

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR PUBLIC SERVICES  
MARILYN MYERS

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR PERSONNEL,  
PLANNING AND SYSTEMS  
JOHN LEHNER

UH LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER SPRING 2015

EDITOR  
ESMERALDA FISHER ('03, MA '13)  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

DESIGN / PHOTOGRAPHY  
MAURICIO LAZO ('11)  
MULTIMEDIA SPECIALIST

CONTRIBUTOR  
GREGORY YERKE  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR 2

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES  
114 UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES  
HOUSTON, TX 77204-2000

PHONE 713.743.1050  
WEB INFO.LIB.UH.EDU

# LETTER FROM THE DEAN

“ I ACHIEVED MY DREAM, AND IT WAS SO MUCH MORE THAN I EVER COULD HAVE EXPECTED. ”

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as University of Houston Dean of Libraries, and alongside so many amazing individuals. The University of Houston has been an extraordinary place to be. It is my greatest pleasure every day to work in such an environment. You all have given me so many great memories to cherish as I step down from this role and reflect on what an extraordinary ride it's been!

Over the past 18 years, we have accomplished big things together, including creating new partnerships, resources, programs and services; strengthening our national recognition through the expertise and leadership of our incredibly talented team of professionals; and building a beautiful campus space that gives students a home base to achieve academic, professional and personal success.

Most importantly, we've worked together to attain a research library culture that exemplifies excellence, the driving quality that each of our librarians and staff embrace and personify every day. Without this, the Libraries could not be what it is today.

To the librarians and staff of the UH Libraries, thank you. You are the catalysts of change on the campus, and within our profession.

To my colleagues and friends, thank you for your support, encouragement and the many laughs we've shared.

To our loyal supporters of the Libraries, I deeply appreciate your generosity and enthusiasm for helping us grow. Your gifts are an investment that will yield outstanding returns for generations.

To our collaborators and cohorts in libraries of all kinds, thank you for your partnership. We have achieved so much in our endeavors to shape library services, and there is still so much more to do!

To the students and scholars of the University of Houston, thank you for making my time at UH memorable and significant.

As I pass the torch to my successor, I have the utmost confidence that the Libraries will flourish even further, and our team is poised to continue our momentum. With your support, the next University of Houston Dean of Libraries will lead the libraries to even greater success.

In my 45 years as a librarian, I've learned a lot of lessons and gained a lot of insight. I didn't know how much fun it would be, and what joy it would bring to my life. I achieved my dream, and it was so much more than I ever could have expected.

Thank you, and farewell.

**Dana C. Rooks**

Dean of Libraries and  
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair



UNIQUE HOLDINGS

Lecture Series Highlights Research Potential in Special Collections

By Gregory Yerke

The University of Houston Libraries recently launched a true one-of-a-kind collaboration between the Liaison Services and Special Collections departments entitled *Unique Holdings*, highlighting the research potential tucked away right here on campus in the rare books, manuscripts, and archival items housed in Special Collections. This brown bag lecture series debuted in the fall of 2014 with “The Last Untapped Resource in Houston,” a discussion of unique works of literature housed in Special Collections, curated by library specialist Kristine Greive and English librarian Jesse Sharpe.

As Greive and Sharpe explained from the outset, the ease of access to an abundance of quality databases has allowed research libraries around the country to provide scholars with unprecedented resources for research -- regardless of their location. As a result, more and more research libraries begin to resemble one another and stand on equal footing in terms of their collections. In this new environment, however, the holdings of Special Collections distinguish one library from another and help to define the unique character and research potential at each institution.

This reality of the digital age, coupled with the preservation needs that require Special Collections holdings to be housed in secure, climate-controlled facilities, begged for a high-profile venue in which to shine a light on these invaluable resources that might otherwise remain undiscovered. The Unique Holdings series fills this need as an opportunity to directly engage students, faculty, and the community at large with the library’s large and varied rare book collection.

Spurred by the success of this first event, Greive now works with liaison librarians across all disciplines to curate a series that promises to shed new light on old treasures. The spring 2015 installment of this series, “The Human Side of Science,” featured biology and biochemistry librarian Porcia Vaughn along with Greive and Sharpe in a discussion of rare scientific works spanning approximately seven centuries. Faculty, students, and others in attendance were able to view the many ways in which science has been approached and taught over the centuries, as well as the ways in which science and the humanities interact.

All *Unique Holdings* events are free and open to the public. Scheduled future events for the fall of 2015 and beyond include discussions of historic maps housed in Special Collections and rare items available for study related to pseudoscience and the occult. Grab a lunch and join us as the *Unique Holdings* series moves forward. There is sure to be a little something for everyone.

To learn more about future **Unique Holdings** events, visit UH Libraries News and Events at [info.lib.uh.edu/p/news-events](http://info.lib.uh.edu/p/news-events).

*Common Blue Jay. From John Bigland’s A Natural History of Birds, Fishes, Reptiles, and Insects (1845). Available at UH Special Collections.*

LEHNER NAMED RECIPIENT OF FRANZHEIM ENDOWED LIBRARY PROFESSORSHIP

John Lehner, associate dean of personnel, planning, and systems, has been selected as the inaugural recipient of the Ambassador Kenneth Franzheim II Endowed Library Professorship, effective April 1, 2015.

“John Lehner’s appointment reflects his exceptional performance as a leader and a scholar in the field of librarianship,” said Dean of Libraries and Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair Dana Rooks. “The majority of his library career has been focused on the critical area of human resource management and administration. He has achieved strong national recognition in this field through his leadership in the development of new practices and policies reflecting the rapid changes in employee expectations, legal requirements, and transformational organization needs which permeate today’s human resource arena.”

Kenneth Franzheim II was a Houston oilman and philanthropist. He served as ambassador to New Zealand, Western Samoa, Tonga and Fiji from 1969 to 1972. Franzheim was also a friend and supporter of the UH Libraries, with a strong belief in education and lifelong learning.



**John Lehner**  
Associate Dean of Personnel, Planning and Systems

NEW TO UH LIBRARIES

**Melody Condron**  
Resource Management Coordinator



**Ariana Santiago**  
Instruction Librarian



**Emily Vinson**  
Audiovisual Archivist





# DANA ROOKS: A RETROSPECTIVE

.....

**Dana Rooks led the University of Houston Libraries through nearly two decades of transformation, having first risen through the ranks of librarianship.**

After holding positions at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Missouri – St. Louis, she joined the University of Houston. At UH, she fulfilled the roles of business/economics reference librarian, coordinator of library instruction, library personnel coordinator, assistant director for administration, assistant director for public services and administration, and acting director. This year, Rooks will retire after 18 years as Dean of Libraries and Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair.

During Rooks' career, the Libraries became a well-regarded campus institution. She is candid as she recalls that, when she first arrived in 1979, "the library was a failed organization. It had a massive uncataloged backlog which was growing each year. The library was not a service oriented organization in any respect. Technology was emerging for database searching and technical processing functions, but the library was not engaged in adopting the technology."

Things began to improve when Robin Downes, Rooks' predecessor, was hired as library director in 1980. True pride and admiration shines through in Rooks' characterization of the Libraries as it exists today. "The University of Houston Libraries is accurately perceived by the students, faculty, and administration as highly successful," she said. "The librarians and staff are dedicated to meeting the needs of all our constituents, we are innovative in the application of technology, and we focus on assessment and outcomes of all our programs and services. This transformation and positive spirit will only get stronger under new and fresh leadership as I step down from my role as dean."

When Rooks became dean in January 1997, her first priority was to address the declining levels of funding from the state, as needs within the Libraries increased. To mitigate the effects of a shrinking budget, Rooks' focus grew outward. "I knew before being named dean that the State of Texas could no longer provide the level of funding that universities had relied on in the past," she said. "The library could never be more than adequate unless we could successfully attract external funding to allow us to achieve the excellence our students, faculty and community deserved."





With little experience in development and no donors to call upon, Rooks was determined to master the art of fundraising. She launched a comprehensive development effort, which included hiring a skilled development director who coached her on strategy. She penned a column appearing in *Journal of Academic Librarianship* from 2006 - 2008, “Library Fundraising: Random Ramblings,” which chronicled her experiences in library development and served as part guide, part reality check to others in the field.

Some of Rooks’ many accomplishments in development include initiating and implementing the University’s first incubator endowment program, the Acorn Endowment; increasing the library endowment by \$7 million; securing three endowed chairs for the Libraries, including the dean’s position; and increasing Annual Fund giving from \$5,700 in 1997 to over \$200,000 annually.

This series of boldly successful fundraising gains culminated in her most notable achievement: raising \$20 million in less than three years for the MD Anderson Library building addition.

“The library building campaign was my most intimidating challenge,” Rooks said. She enlisted the support of University Advancement professionals, a group she sees as “invaluable allies and unwavering advocates for the Libraries.” Faculty and staff became supporters, and “remarkable volunteer leadership from the community stepped forward in the persons of Belle and Richard J. V. Johnson and Beth Robertson to lead our efforts to achieve what seemed to be an overwhelming goal.”

Through the campaign’s duration and construction phase, Rooks saw unyielding dedication from the librarians and staff. “They worked through the dust, the noise, and the wildly fluctuating temperatures,” she said. “They never complained, and they provided the highest levels of service at all times, under all conditions. The library never veered from our normal hours of operation. The librarians and staff didn’t just maintain, they moved forward with new services, new programs, and new operating efficiencies.”

Today, the MD Anderson Library is noted as a gorgeous facility that Rooks (and the community) have regarded as a jewel of the University and city, and was created through a unified team effort.

As a leader, Rooks has a distinctive combination of collaborative and decisive ability. She meets all situations with savvy aplomb, but that’s not what is most fascinating about Rooks. It is her tendency to advance herself and her team by seeking and conquering unfamiliar territory.

“I have learned that one’s most significant accomplishments are those which were not in one’s comfort zone,” she said. “Leaders challenge themselves, they challenge those around them, and they seek opportunities that are outside their comfort range.”

One of the less visible but equally challenging demands of her tenure as dean was transforming organizational culture to embody the values of service, diversity, lifelong learning, engagement and excellence. Incrementally, the Libraries grew to the standard set by Rooks, although the goals, Rooks said, seemed at times difficult, uncomfortable, and often outside her realm of expertise. “None are accomplished in isolation,” she said. “All are subtle and none are sudden. They are a product of collaboration, cooperation, and strong relationships.”

Over the course of her career, Rooks has had several influential mentors. “My mother was a librarian, very prominent and nationally recognized in public libraries, so she was my first and foremost mentor,” she said. “I had the opportunity to work for some outstanding library directors and deans, and learned different things from each one. I’ve worked hard to mentor other people that I come across in my career. I always tell them they have to be more successful than me.”

It’s true that Rooks is known as a mentor to many, including her team of UH librarians. She has a simple message for this special group of “innovative, creative, dynamic individuals. ‘Keep your passion, be a leader in all you do, don’t be afraid to take a risk, and enjoy the ride.’”

UH students also know Rooks as a friend and supporter in their academic and professional development. Her message to students is practical and very librarian. “Regardless of the path you choose in your future life, or your career, learn how to effectively find and use information. Information literacy skills will make lifelong learning possible.

Whether starting and sustaining your own business, keeping current in your chosen field, moving to a new line of work, or dealing with personal issues in life, success is dependent on finding and utilizing valid information to make knowledgeable and informed decisions. Learn those skills, find a library wherever you go, and use the expertise and resources you find there. If you stay in Houston, we, of course, welcome you to use the University of Houston Libraries.”

All libraries have the potential to empower individuals and communities, and Rooks has held to this belief as she has led numerous collaborative efforts to strengthen independent and state-supported libraries. Rooks founded and served as president of the Texas Council of Academic Libraries (TCAL), and is one of the founders of TexShare, an innovative model for statewide library resource sharing. More recently, she was also a founder and president of the Texas Digital Library.

UH Libraries is a member of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), an organization of 125 distinguished research libraries in North America. Rooks affirms the power of ARL libraries to enact positive transformation in librarianship. Again, Rooks assumed a leadership role on a national level as a member of the ARL Board of Directors.

“I strongly believe that ARL libraries have an obligation to the greater library community,” Rooks said. “In a city like Houston, we are the library that has the resources, expertise and capacity to be able to not only participate, but to take a lead in collaborative statewide, regional, and citywide efforts.”

Rooks has a simple formula for success in career and life: always be learning. “I knew in graduate school I wanted to be an ARL library dean,” she said. “You start by figuring out what you need to do, to do that, both from a credential standpoint and from what skills you need. Like all people, you learn from the good and the bad. You evolve by increasing your knowledge, being curious, doing research, using your network, anything you can find just to be better.”

Always focusing on excellence, Rooks has recruited talented librarians who are experts in various areas from across the nation to join the University of Houston, and has surrounded herself with top performers. She has relied on her associate deans, Linda Thompson, Marilyn Myers and John Lehner, as trusted and knowledgeable advisers who serve as connectors to the departments that keep the Libraries going. Her leadership team helps to communicate and execute the values, goals and culture she has shaped over time.

Sharing knowledge and resources, and inspiring others to improve, academically, professionally and personally, is at the heart of what the University of Houston Libraries is, and will continue to be. “I don’t care whether they are high school debate team students or public citizens who are doing research for a better opportunity to advance themselves, their families, or community,” Rooks said. “We have the expertise and the service attitude regardless of who the person is. Whatever the purpose, when they need that, we’re here. That’s us, that’s what we do. That’s how we win.”

*Dana Rooks, leader, mentor and friend, has shown unflinching dedication and stellar leadership in her 45 years as a librarian and dean. UH Libraries donors Tom and Becky Jay have generously made a lead gift to establish an Acorn Endowment in honor of Dana’s career. This endowment will provide funds to address the University of Houston Libraries’ greatest needs.*

*Our goal is to have the endowment fully funded before Dana’s upcoming retirement. In addition to the Jays, more than a dozen additional donors have contributed to this fund.*

*For more information on contributing to the Dana Rooks Acorn Endowment, contact Todd Marrs, Director of Development at 713.743.9741 or dtmarrs@uh.edu*



Dana C. Rooks

Dean of Libraries and Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair



# LIBRARIAN NEWS

**Kelsey Brett** presented “Don’t Take Paws: Start a Therapy Dog Program at Your Library” at the Texas Library Association (TLA) District 8 Fall Conference.

**Brett** moderated a panel, “Discovery Systems: Building a Better User Experience,” at the Electronic Resources and Libraries (ER&L) Conference.

**Brett** co-authored “Tabs and Tabulations: Results of a Transaction Log Analysis of a Tabbed Search Interface,” with Elizabeth German and **Frederick Young**, which appeared in *Journal of Web Librarianship*.

**Melody Condron** serves as vice-chair of the Library and Information Technology Association Membership Development Committee through June 2015. Her appointment as chair begins in July.

**Condron** also serves as chair of the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies Conference Programming Committee.

**Condron’s** poster session, “Digitization and Curation of Personal Photo Collections: Recommendations, Methods and Tools from a Recent Project,” was accepted to the Personal Digital Archiving Conference.

**Lisa Cruces** presented “The Challenges and Value of Preserving and Integrating 19th-Century Spanish-Language Periodicals into Archival Instruction” at the Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage Project Conference.

**Cruces** was a panelist in a talk titled “Pushing Back: Chicana, Latina, Hispanic Women Preserving Our Narratives” at the University of Houston.

**Cruces** was a panelist for a talk titled “Whose History Is It? Community Archives and the Shaping of Memory” at the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Rare Books and Manuscripts (RBMS) Section 2015 Pre-conference.

**Nora Dethloff** presented “Give ‘Em What They Want: Textbooks and ILL” at the ILLiad International Conference; and “Occam’s Reader at UH Libraries” as part of a webinar panel for LIBRAS, Inc.

**Dethloff** is a member of the TLA 2016 Conference Program Planning Committee and co-chair of Contributed Papers Subcommittee; the Greater Western Library Alliance Resource Sharing and Document Delivery Committee; and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission ILL/Courier Working Group.

**Catherine Essinger** serves as co-chair of the Programs Committee for the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) 43rd Annual Conference.

**Suzanne Ferimer** co-authored “Standards for Vision Science Libraries: 2014 Revision” (*Journal of the Medical Library Association*) with Kristin Motte, C. Brooke Caldwell, Karen S. Lamson and J. Chris Nims.

**Ferimer** co-presented “Clinical Problem Solving and the Study of Diagnostic Expertise” with Kristin Motte at the American Academy of Optometry 2014.

**Ferimer** co-presented a poster, “Association of Vision Science Librarians Develop New Standards for the 21st Century Vision Science Library,” with Kristin Motte at the American Academy of Optometry 2014.

**Wenli Gao** will serve on the American Library Association (ALA) Committee on Diversity from 2015-2017.

**Gao** presented “Beyond Journal Impact and Usage Statistics: Using Citation Analysis for Collection Development” at North American Serials Interest Group 30th Annual Conference.

**Kelli Getz** was selected to participate in the TLA TALL Texans Leadership Development Institute.

**Getz** co-presented “Assessment methodology: Information gathering for serials review” with Carol Seiler at ALA Midwinter Conference.

**Christina Gola** and **Miranda Bennett** co-authored a book chapter (accepted and in progress), “The University of Houston’s Liaison Leadership Team: A Case Study in Group Mentoring for Succession Planning,” to appear in *Succession Planning Through Mentoring*.

**Gola** serves as chair of the TLA 2016 Conference Program Committee.

**Lee Hilyer’s** book reviews of *Make It Here: Inciting Creativity and Innovation in Your Library* (Hamilton and Schmidt); *Crash Course in Dealing with Difficult Library Customers* (Mosley, Tucker and Van Winkle); and *Records Management and Information Culture* (Oliver and Foscarini) appeared in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

**Hilyer** presented “Focus on the Learner: Strategies for Improving PowerPoint Presentations” at ARLIS/NA 43rd Annual Conference.

**Hilyer** serves as co-chair of the TLA 2016 Annual Conference Local Arrangements Committee.

**Stephen James’** article, “Donald Barthelme and the Adams Petroleum Center,” appeared in the Spring 2015 issue of *Houston History*.

**Irene Ke, Wenli Gao** and **Jackie Bronicki** co-presented a poster, “Analyzing Monograph Usage of Approval and Firm Orders for Collection Development,” at the ACRL Conference.

**Ke** and **Bronicki** co-authored “Using Scopus to Study Researchers’ Citing Behavior for Local Collection Decisions: A Focus on Psychology,” to appear in *Journal of Library Administration*.

**Drew Krewer** was an organizer and instructor of a workshop, “Think Big: Considering Large-Scale Digitization,” at the ARLIS/NA 43rd Annual Conference.

**Krewer** co-presented a poster, “Improving the Efficiency and Quality of Digitization Practice” with **Annie Wu** at the 2014 Digital Library Federation (DLF) Forum.

**Vince Lee** serves as president of Archivists of the Houston Area.

**Lee** presented “Women to the Forefront: Remembering, Preserving, and Sharing Tales on Sexism, Patriotic Duty, and Being the Perfect Housewife” at the Texas State Historical Association’s Annual Meeting.

**Lee** was a panelist in a TLA webinar titled “Can We Fix It? Nurturing a Diverse and Inclusive Team in Your Workplace.”

**John Lehner** will assume the role of chair of the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee in July.

**Ashley Lierman** facilitated a roundtable discussion, “Make Your Module a Better Teacher: Pedagogy in Asynchronous Online IL Instruction,” at the ACRL Conference.

**Andrea Malone** presented “Approaches to Better Serving International Users” (invited) at ARLIS/NA 43rd Annual Conference.

**Mary Manning** is a member of the Society of American Archivists Lane Awards Committee, and is chair of the Reference, Outreach and Access Section Nominations Committee.

**Lisa Martin’s** review of “Business School Libraries in the 21st Century” (Wales) appeared in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

**Martin** presented a poster, “Revolutionizing Business Student Access to Science Research: an innovative collaboration between entrepreneurship and science librarians,” at the Special Libraries Association 2015 Annual Conference.

**Marilyn Myers** serves on the ACRL Academic Research Librarian of the Year Award Committee, the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award Committee and the Liaisons Coordinating Committee.

**Myers** also serves on the International Coach Federation Houston Chapter Education Committee; as the Association for Conflict Resolution Houston Chapter Executive Board secretary; and as chair of the University of Houston Athletics Advisory Committee.

**Ariana Santiago** serves as chair of the ALA New Members Roundtable Handbook Committee; member of the New Members Roundtable President’s Program Committee; and the ACRL Instruction Section Instruction for Diverse Populations Committee.

**Santiago** co-presented a poster titled “Library Residents on the Bleeding Edge: Delivering Value through Innovation, Leadership, and Inclusion” with Sara Arnold-Garza (Towson) and Rosalinda Linares (U. of Louisville); and co-facilitated a roundtable discussion, “Outreach that Lasts: How Can Libraries Create Sustainable Marketing and Outreach Initiatives?” with Brittney Thomas (U. of Iowa) at the ACRL Conference.

**Alex Simons** was appointed as chair elect of the TLA Intellectual Freedom Committee.

**Simons** presented a webinar, “Clearly Communicating with Users about Discovery Platforms from a Public Services Standpoint,” as part of Amigos Library Services online conference, Discovery Tools Now and in the Future.

**Mike Thompson** gave a presentation, “Together We Can Do So Much: Stories of Library and Vendor Collaboration,” (invited) at the ER&L Conference.

**Thompson** presented “The Library-Publisher Connection: The View from an Academic Library” as a webinar hosted by Amigos Library Services; and “Adding E-Preferred and DDA to the Mix” at the Charleston Conference.

**Santi Thompson** is a member of the DLF Forum 2015 Program Planning Committee and chair of the Scholarship Subcommittee; and co-coordinator of the Assessment Interest Group.

**S. Thompson** is a member of the Texas Digital Library (TDL) ETD Metadata Working Group and Data Management Pilot Project; the ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee; the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) Organization and Bylaws Committee; and is program co-chair of the ALCTS Metadata Interest Group.

**S. Thompson** co-presented “Putting the Puzzle Pieces Together: Forming UH Libraries Digital Preservation Landscape” at the Texas Conference on Digital Libraries (TCDL) with **Drew Krewer, Mary Manning, Rob Spragg,** and **Annie Wu**.

**S. Thompson** co-presented “Automated Enhancement of Controlled Vocabularies: Upgrading Legacy Metadata in CONTENTdm” at DCMI International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications with **Andy Weidner** and **Annie Wu**.

**S. Thompson** co-presented “Moving Beyond ‘If We Build It They Will Come’: the Invisible User in Digital Library Development” at Digital Libraries 2014 (conjoined conference for both the ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries and the Theory and Practice of Digital Libraries Conference) in London, UK with Michele Reilly.

**Rachel Vacek** presented “Trends in Web Design and User Expectations and Their Impact on Library Services” (invited) at the Houston Area Law Librarians Annual Meeting.

**Vacek** presented “Library Websites of the Future” (invited) at the Special Library Association Texas Chapter Annual Meeting.

**Vacek** co-presented “Content Management and Technical Infrastructure” (invited) with Ken Varnum, Victoria Estrada and Annemarie Haar at the New Media Consortium Virtual Symposium on the Future of Libraries, Online.

**Vacek** was interviewed at the Code4Lib Conference on experiences with library technology and struggles with gender roles. The interview appeared on *Circulating Ideas* (Steve Thomas, “Episode 58: Lisa Rabey @ code4lib2014”).

**Shawn Vaillancourt** serves as chair of the ALA GLBT Roundtable Bylaws Committee.

**Vaillancourt** co-chaired a planning committee for a preconference, “Rolling out the Rainbow Carpet: Serving LGBTQ Communities” at ALA Annual Conference.

**Vaillancourt** co-presented “Taming the Wilde: Collaborating with expertise for faster, better, smarter collection analysis” with **Jackie Bronicki, Cherie Turner** and **Frederick Young** at the Charleston Conference.

**Porcia Vaughn** and **Cherie Turner** presented a poster, “Decoding via Coding: Analyzing Qualitative Data,” at the ACRL Conference.

**Loretta Wallace** co-presented “Cradle to Grave: A Team Approach to Managing Database Lifecycles” with Jackie Bronicki and Kelli Getz at the ER&L Conference.

**Wallace** is a member of the ACRL University Libraries Section Nominating 2015 Committee, and member of the TLA Nominating Committee.

**Andy Weidner** presented “Practical Project Management with Basecamp” at the SMART Summit via Skype; and co-presented “Launching Metaware.buzz” with Jenn Riley, as part of the panel “Experimental Scholarly Publishing: Building New Models with Distributed Communities of Practice” at the DLF Forum.

**Weidner** co-presented “Hitting the Road Towards a Greater Digital Destination: Evaluating and Testing DAMS at the University of Houston Libraries” at the Texas Conference on Digital Libraries, with **Santi Thompson, Rachel Vacek, Sean Watkins, Annie Wu** and Valerie Prilop.

**Weidner** co-presented a poster titled “Metadata Maintenance Strategies” at the TLA Annual Conference with **Albert Duran**.

**Weidner’s** book review of *Linked Data for Libraries, Archives and Museums: How to Clean, Link and Publish Your Metadata* (van Hooland and Verborgh) appeared in *Journal of Digital Media Management*.

**Annie Wu** and **Andy Weidner** co-presented “Maintaining Legacy Metadata in CONTENTdm: The Metadata Upgrade Project at the University of Houston Libraries” at Using CONTENTdm: Amigos Online Conference.

**Wu** was a panelist for “Essential Skills and Qualities of Cataloger/Metadata Librarians in the Digital Era” at the TLA Conference.

**Wu** is a member of the DLF Conference Program Committee, the ALCTS Program Committee and the TDL DuraCloud Working Group.



# SUPPORTING LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY

Long-time friend and supporter of the University of Houston Libraries, Wendy Adair, recently established an endowment to support the acquisition of new technologies at the Libraries.

"I believe that the library is the soul of the University, touching every area, every discipline, every student and faculty member," Adair said. "Recent technological advancements make access to the MD Anderson Library available from anywhere in the world. It is my hope that this endowment can, in a small way, help to ensure that the MD Anderson Library continues to lead the way in providing access and content to all."

In addition to establishing the Wendy H. Adair Endowment for Library Technology, Adair has also included the UH Libraries in her estate plans.

*To learn more about giving to the Libraries, or for information on estate planning, please contact Todd Marrs, Director of Development at 713.743.9741 or [dtmarrs@uh.edu](mailto:dtmarrs@uh.edu).*