Studying with people for the first time

I will miss you all! Promise to visit you in Bishop’s House.

Good Bye Oh, Lilly

Studying with Celeste

THE PE

ALPX

Lilly is my new librarian. I don’t know if I will miss Chelsea or if I will miss studying in the stacks. I will miss Chelsea’s smile and the way she always has paper and books ready for me. Chelsea is the kindest person and I am lucky to have such a wonderful person as a librarian.

The staff is super friendly. I have spent more time in the stacks than in the sun.

The stacks are always quiet and relaxing.

I was here as a graduate and now as a teacher.

Thanks, Lily!
What We Did Over Spring Break
The first step in preparing Lilly Library for two years of renovations: removing all the artwork.

The remarkable and eclectic collection is one of the East Campus library’s many charms. These Qing Dynasty scrolls, donated in 1962 by Mrs. James A. Thomas, have hung in the Thomas Reading Room for decades. In March, while students were on spring break, movers carefully packed them up—along with a trove of Duke family portraits, statues, porcelains, textiles, clothing, and other items—and moved it all to storage. Most of it will return after the renovation, while some pieces will be found new homes.

Read more about the Lilly Library renovation, which begins this summer, on p. 20.
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On the cover: Personal messages by Duke students and community members written on the walls of Lilly Library at a renovation kickoff event on April 16, before the library closed for two years of renovations.
Current Exhibits

Our Duke: Constructing a Century
Jerry and Bruce Chappell Family Gallery
THROUGH DECEMBER 15, 2024
Curated by a team of Duke undergraduates who conducted extensive research in the University Archives, *Our Duke: Constructing a Century* presents a mosaic of moments from the last one hundred years of Duke history through carefully chosen artifacts, photographs, films, publications, and more. This special centennial exhibit presents a candid view of Duke’s complex, rich, and sometimes uncomfortable history, providing insight into how the university became what it is today.

Mapping Jewish Modernism
Mary Duke Biddle Room
THROUGH AUGUST 3, 2024
Curated by students and faculty in Duke’s Global Jewish Modernism Lab, this exhibit highlights the transnational, cross-cultural, and multilingual dimensions of Jewish modernism, including both Jewish authors and the role of Jewishness in modernist works, drawing on materials from Duke’s Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Kris Graves: American Monuments
Documentary Arts Gallery
THROUGH OCTOBER 6, 2024
In 2020, amid nationwide Black Lives Matter protests, photographer Kris Graves traveled across the South, taking photographs of Confederate monuments being covered, defaced, or removed. One of those monuments (since taken down) was the sixty-foot statue of General Robert E. Lee on Richmond’s Monument Avenue, which Graves transformed into a series of images memorializing George Floyd and other Black people killed by white violence. Graves will visit Duke in September to discuss the exhibit.
Something Special: Highlights from the History of the Rubenstein Library

Michael and Karen Stone Family Gallery

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

This exhibition examines the history of special collections at Duke University, from the Trinity College Historical Society and the establishment of the Duke Endowment in 1924 to the growth and expansion of Duke’s libraries in the twenty-first century. The special collections of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library have helped to make Duke University a world-renowned institution of primary source research. Today, thousands of students, visitors, and researchers use the library’s resources each year, both online and in-person.

Medicine Without Physicians: A History of Home Remedies

Josiah Charles Trent History of Medicine Room

THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2024

Before affordable doctors, people adopted a do-it-yourself attitude towards health and medicine. This exhibit explores the tradition of “domestic medicine” and the use of botanical remedies and herbalism to treat common ailments. The items on display capture the range of practices across social class, economic ability, culture, and race, as well as the more recent rise of “natural” medicine and efforts to democratize medicine.
Photojournalist Wins Rubenstein Library Digital Storytelling Award

Photojournalist and documentarian Roderico “Rode” Yool Díaz is the winner of this year’s Digital Storytelling Award presented by the Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library at Duke University. Yool Díaz received the award for his digital project documenting the 2012–2015 genocide trials against former Guatemalan dictator Efraín Ríos Montt. The project includes photos, video, and audio recordings of the trial proceedings, the reading of the verdict, and Ríos-Montt and his legal team reacting to the verdict.

“Trials are such an important and integral element of the human rights movement going back to Nuremberg,” said Patrick Stawski, Human Rights Archivist at the Rubenstein Library. “The Human Rights Archive has extensive documentation on trials from around the world, but Rode’s project reminds us that trials are not just procedural. His images capture an insurgent, emotional, historical event, one that is simultaneously public yet intimate and affectively human through and through.”

The Rubenstein Library Digital Storytelling Award is co-sponsored by the Human Rights Archive and the Archive of Documentary Arts at the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library. The award seeks to support outstanding documentary artists/activists exploring human rights and social justice, while expanding the digital documentary holdings in the archive and ensuring long-term preservation and access to their work. Winners receive $2,500 and are invited to present their work at Duke.

Two Events Launch New Book Series on the Grateful Dead

To celebrate the launch of a new book series from Duke University Press, Studies in the Grateful Dead, the Libraries hosted two author talks this semester exploring the iconic rock band’s lasting impact on American culture and the “long strange trip” their music is still taking today.

Edited by Nicholas G. Merriweather, Executive Director of the Grateful Dead Studies Association and former Grateful Dead Archivist at the University of California–Santa Cruz, the new book series explores the musical and cultural significance, impact, and achievement of the Grateful Dead while reinventing the academic and popular discourse devoted to the band.


Duke has several notable connections with the Grateful Dead, who performed at the university five times over the years. The jam band’s 1978 concert at Cameron Indoor Stadium is widely regarded as one of their best shows of the decade, according to Eric Mlyn of Duke’s Sanford School of Public Policy, who also teaches a popular first-year seminar about the Dead.
Highlighting Black Lives in the Archives

Every April, the John Hope Franklin Research Center in the Rubenstein Library hosts an open house inviting the public to get a hands-on feel for Black history. From rare first-edition books, to published works exploring Black history in Durham, to publications by Black students at Duke, visitors are encouraged to browse, touch, and explore the richness of Black culture preserved in the archives.

Highlights from this year’s Black Lives in Archives Open House included an 1853 first edition of the *Narrative of Sojourner Truth*, rare pamphlets by journalist and activist Ida B. Wells, and early twentieth-century photographs by Michael Francis Blake, one of the first Black studio photographers in Charleston, South Carolina.

“The difference between an archive and a museum is that we want you to touch our things,” said John Gartrell, who directs the Franklin Center and organizes the annual event. “Here, we encourage you to hold them and get to know what’s within.”
50 Years of Libraries Assembly

As Duke celebrates its centennial in 2024, we’ve been looking back at our own library milestones through the years.

This year we’re proud to observe a half-century of Libraries Assembly, the organization for all full- and part-time staff across Duke’s campus libraries. Libraries Assembly offers connections and partnerships with co-workers, information about Duke and its libraries for new employees, advocacy for staff in library and university affairs, and professional development opportunities such as speakers, panels, and workshops.

The organization looks a little different than it did fifty years ago, but so does our staff. To mark the occasion, Libraries Assembly hosted a panel of current and retired library staff reflecting on the history and contributions of the group, along with an exhibit at the entrance of Perkins Library. Today, Libraries Assembly’s committees and members-at-large continue to advocate for and promote the work of all the staff who keep Duke’s libraries running, year in and year out.

Exploring the Crystal Coast at Duke’s Marine Lab

Spring break is a popular beach week for Duke undergraduates. But not all beaches are the same. Jodi Psoter, Librarian for Marine Science and Head of the Pearse Memorial Library (kneeling, center), led a team of Duke undergrads and graduate students on a “Spring Breakthrough” that week, learning about the history, science, and people of Beaufort, North Carolina, and its surrounding communities. Spring Breakthrough is a unique Duke experience offering undergraduates the chance to explore new ideas and interests in a fun and grade-free way, led by members of the Duke community. While on their adventures, the students had several up-close animal encounters: dolphins, wild horses, crabs, sea turtles, jellyfish, sting rays, and even a pet squirrel.
Civil Rights History Lessons with Duke in D.C.

Civic engagement and grassroots movements have fundamentally shaped our nation’s history. That was the theme of a sold-out Duke alumni event hosted by the Libraries this April at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. The event highlighted the work of the Movement History Initiative (MHI), a collaboration between the SNCC Legacy Project and Duke University that brings together activists, academics, and archivists based in the Rubenstein Library’s John Hope Franklin Research Center.

The MHI partnership was formed in 2013 to present a different narrative of the Civil Rights Movement, one that tells that story from the ground up and the inside out. The goals are threefold: to document and preserve the legacy of Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) as part of the Black freedom struggle of the 1960s; to pass on the informational wealth of veteran civil rights activists to the next generation of grassroots organizations; and to engage today’s activists in the preservation of their own history.

Among the distinguished speakers at the Cosmos Club were several Duke alumni, including trustee Lisa Borders T’79, historians Wesley Hogan G’95 ’00 and Hasan Kwame Jeffries G’97 ’02, David M. Rubenstein T’70, as well as SNCC veterans Jennifer Lawson, Courtland Cox, and others. The conversation offered insights about SNCC’s history and accomplishments, and about how ordinary people can take action to make their own lives and communities more just today.

Fun fact: Duke’s own Dr. John Hope Franklin, for whom the Franklin Research Center was named, was the first African American to be elected a member of the prestigious Cosmos Club, in 1962.
It gives me great pleasure to share with you
Where Curiosity Leads: The Duke University Libraries
Strategic Plan, 2024–2029.

The title of our plan, “Where Curiosity Leads,” is intended to capture that spirit of continuous learning and innovation. Curiosity is the first step that ultimately leads one to the door of a library. Likewise, as an organization, ours is one governed by a desire to know and an openness to new ways of doing things.

Our plan aligns with President Price’s overarching Strategic Vision for Duke, particularly in the ways it focuses on empowering Duke researchers, strengthening the campus community, and partnering with purpose at Duke and in Durham on common goals. It also shares some continuities with our previous strategic plan—“Engage, Discover, Transform”—which established teaching and research partnerships we’re still building on, and laid the groundwork for the long-awaited renovation and expansion of Lilly Library, finally getting underway this year.

Along with these connections, our new strategic plan also addresses recent developments in the teaching and research landscape, such as advancements in artificial intelligence, new data sharing guidelines for federally funded research, the expansion of open scholarship, and changes in graduate and undergraduate education at Duke. Our plan contains more detail about all of these themes and how they specifically apply to library collections, services, spaces, and programs.

The strategic priorities, goals, and values that follow were informed by a year’s worth of in-depth conversations, surveys, and focus groups with library stakeholders, including Duke undergraduate and graduate students, faculty members, university and library leadership, members of our Library Advisory Board, and of course our library staff. Out of that extensive process of engagement and feedback we drew our plan’s five main directions, or pillars as we call them, further refined by staff working groups into measurable objectives and tactics. Together they will shape what we deliver and how we will work in the future.

There are many individuals we wish to thank for their contributions, especially those listed at the end. If there is anything we’ve learned from this process, it’s that inclusion and collaboration are not just buzzwords but the surest way to transform lofty ambitions into reality. We are delighted to share with you this next chapter in our journey, and we look forward to reporting on our progress as we go.

Joseph A. Salem, Jr.
Rita DiGiallonardo Holloway
University Librarian and
Vice Provost for Library Affairs
Collections are the foundation on which everything we do is built. We will leverage the vast scholarly resources we hold, developing and refining wide-ranging research collections that meet Duke’s evolving needs. We will align areas of growth with emerging teaching and research priorities. We will prioritize sustainability and strategic partnerships, preserving and providing access to the scholarly record for users today and in the future.

**GOAL 1** – Focus collection development efforts and resources to achieve the dual aims of meeting Duke’s changing scholarly needs and building collections of distinction with enduring importance to the broader research community.

**GOAL 2** – Explicitly link collecting strategies and decisions to our stated organizational values, emphasizing diversity and investing in a future information landscape that benefits Duke and society at large.

**GOAL 3** – Steward library holdings and resources through sustainable collection development principles and lifecycle management practices.

**GOAL 4** – Expand access to collections through digitization and enhanced description, connecting researchers around the world with our materials.
Welcome, respect, and include everyone.

The free exchange of ideas that libraries make possible can only occur when all individuals feel welcome, all contributions are respected, and all voices are heard. To those ends, we will embed the values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) into every aspect of our work—from our collections, services, spaces, and online interfaces to our work culture, leadership, and operational decisions. We will start by listening, to understand the needs of our users and staff. We will use what we hear to make changes, pausing regularly to assess our progress. We will support the Duke Climate Commitment by reducing our carbon emissions and supporting education, research, and engagement around sustainable solutions to the climate crisis. And we will partner within the Duke and Durham communities around shared priorities, living by our shared values as we engage with collaborators on and off campus.

**GOAL 1** – Assess our services, spaces, collections, and organization through a DEIA perspective, ensuring that we understand the needs of our users and staff, and holding ourselves accountable for the commitments we make.

**GOAL 2** – Identify, engage, and collaborate with partners in other cultural heritage organizations to advance regional and national DEIA programs, particularly those that further diversify the library profession.

**GOAL 3** – Ensure that users experience all Duke University Libraries as safe, trusted community spaces, where all are welcome, diversity is visually affirmed, and equitable access is the norm.

**GOAL 4** – Uphold a people-centered culture, providing services that meet each person where they are, while encouraging staff innovation and environmental sustainability.

**GOAL 5** – Advance DEIA initiatives in existing library committees and working groups, ensuring a supportive approach that secures the progress of our collective endeavors towards inclusive excellence.
Our mission to advance open and equitable access to knowledge makes it vital that we embrace the opportunities and challenges presented by new tools, data, and research methodologies. We will provide a connected set of services that help Duke researchers plan projects, publish and archive their work, manage and visualize complex data, and navigate federally funded research guidelines. We will continuously improve the user experience across our online resources, digital collections, research support services, consulting services, and educational offerings. Investments in these areas are crucial for supporting the research enterprise across all disciplines, from the sciences and engineering to the arts, humanities, and social sciences, especially the exciting interdisciplinary work that defines a Duke education.

**GOAL 1** – Advance library leadership in data science, visualization, management, and curation to meet the growing need for support in these areas across the university.

**GOAL 2** – Sustain and extend the systems, infrastructure, and digital storage required to collect, preserve, and share scholarship by Duke researchers, as well as our growing digital collections.

**GOAL 3** – Employ new tools and strategies to increase the discoverability, accessibility, and visibility of library resources and research support services, addressing the full range of scholarship at Duke.

**GOAL 4** – Leverage Duke’s leadership position in open scholarship, digital publishing, and intellectual property to promote positive changes in research policies and practices.

**GOAL 5** – Help researchers ethically and legally use emerging technologies to unlock value from vast data sets and online collections, or as the subject of their own research.
PILLAR 4

Deepen and extend outreach and engagement.

We aim to foster, amplify, and showcase the best teaching and research at Duke, increasing its impact both on campus and off. We will share the resources and expertise of Duke’s libraries as widely as possible, through exhibitions, public programs, workshops, instructional offerings, and online content, launching people on their own journeys of discovery. We will refine and strengthen our library brand identity to make our services and resources more discoverable and user-friendly. As we update library spaces to be more inclusive and inviting, we will ensure that users have access to diverse educational and cultural experiences. And we will partner with Duke students, faculty, staff, and other users as they develop the skills to evaluate sources, understand context, manage projects, and become effective teachers, researchers, and learners themselves.

GOAL 1 – Make our library spaces more effective, functional, and engaging for students, faculty, staff, and other learners.

GOAL 2 – Reimagine our teaching and learning programs to support undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty instructors.

GOAL 3 – Communicate and engage with alumni, donors, and the broader Duke community in support of our mission and strategic directions.

GOAL 4 – Refine and enhance library outreach and communications efforts to increase awareness of the role we play for students, faculty, and staff.
PILLAR 5

Invest in organizational wellness.

We will promote engagement and growth for all library employees, realizing that a healthy work environment can foster a deep sense of commitment, personal meaning, and pride. Realizing our ambitions will require investments in our workforce, workplace, and work culture. Our ability to deliver a wide and valued range of library services will depend foremost on our people, including their well-being, job satisfaction, career opportunities, and ability to keep pace with the rapidly evolving nature of library work. We will continue to prioritize our commitments to inclusivity and equity for our staff and ensure diversity of leadership across all levels of the organization. Organizational wellness also means managing our university funding judiciously, allowing us to remain a beacon of innovation and talent among research libraries. To support this work, we will create a culture of assessment and communication around our programming and initiatives, as outlined in the goals below.

GOAL 1 – Prioritize and support professional development opportunities for all library staff that benefit both the employee and the organization.

GOAL 2 – Cultivate a holistic culture of organizational wellness that encompasses mental, physical, and emotional well-being and promotes a sense of staff community.

GOAL 3 – Use data from diverse perspectives to make transparent and engaged decisions about our work.

GOAL 4 – Foster a work environment that is welcoming to everyone, and where anyone can see themselves working, leading to industry recognition as an organization where individuals from diverse backgrounds excel.

GOAL 5 – Steward university funds responsibly, ensuring the financial stability needed to achieve our long-term goals.
MISSION
We advance the research, teaching, and public service mission of Duke University by providing outstanding collections, trusted expertise, and exceptional service in a welcoming and inclusive environment. We are the intellectual crossroads of the university, empowering scholarship and creativity across all fields of inquiry.

VISION
We foster research and teaching that define a Duke education, collaborations that contribute to stronger communities, and intellectual explorations that inspire deeper connections with the world.

OUR VALUES
1. PEOPLE ARE OUR PRIORITY: We see and respect the whole person, adopting people-centered processes and policies. We regularly seek feedback from those around us, then act on it. We approach our daily work with intention, curiosity, and humanity.

2. ACCESS BENEFITS EVERYONE: We support the broadest possible access to information and regard it as a global good. We are a shared space and common resource, inviting all who come through our doors or find us online to discover, learn, and work with us.

3. TRUST IS EARNED: In a world of disinformation and distortion, we provide reliable information, sound research, and expert guidance. We act with openness and integrity, and we honor the trust placed in us as custodians of knowledge and history.

4. DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STRENGTHEN US: We rely on diverse experiences, points of view, and backgrounds to make better decisions, advance research, and adapt to a changing world. As an organization and as individuals, we are healthier when we feel like we belong and help others feel the same.

5. WE TAKE THE LONG VIEW: We believe the best perspective is usually the long one. We strive to balance the needs of the moment with opportunities for the future. We steward collections and university resources responsibly, ensuring their long-term preservation and sustainability.

6. COLLABORATION IS VITAL: We can have a greater impact by partnering with others than we can by going it alone. We look for ways to contribute our experience and expertise to achieve common goals, and we collaborate with purpose, commitment, and ingenuity.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
The Duke University Libraries would like to thank the following for their extensive assistance and input in the course of developing this strategic plan: Griffin Reames and Ashley Garcia of Guideline Consulting. All of the students, faculty, and other members of the Duke community who participated in our surveys and focus groups, including our Library Advisory Board, Library Council, campus leaders, and other partners. All of the library staff who took part in our focus groups, workshops, surveys, and provided feedback at Open Forums, especially the members of the Strategic Planning Committee and the Working Groups for each pillar: Giang Luong Baker, Jennifer Baker, Greta Boers, Julie Brannen, Kim Burhop-Service, Hugh Cayless, Joyce Chapman, Thomas Criciblou, Emily Daly, Jen Darraugh, Blue Dean, Kate Dickson, Maggie Dickson, Beth Doyle, Jamesa Dupree, Fouzia El Gargouri, Stewart Engart, Matthew Farrell, Elena Feinstein, Brooke Gueniorie, Ariane Harstell-Gundy, Katie Heninguen, Drucine Hodges, Adam Hudnut-Beumler, Drew Keener, Caitlin Kelly, Ira King, Alex Konecky, Kelley Lauston, Lesley Looper, Megan Lyon, Heather Martin, Seth McCurdy, Tim McGary, Eric Monson, Naomi Nelson, Erin Nettifee, Meredith Parker-Terry, Rebecca Pattillo, Rachel Porter, Lauren Reno, Joe Salem, Will Sexton, Natalie Sommerville, Vaughn Stewart, Cheryl Thomas, Marvin Tillman, Bill Verner, Daniel Walker, Haley Walton, Aaron Welborn, Towanda Wilson, Luo Zhou, and Angela Zoss.
Capstone Gift Kicks Off Lilly's Transformation

University Receives New $5 Million Grant for Renovation and Expansion

BY AARON WELBORN
Duke University has received $5 million from Lilly Endowment Inc. for the renovation and expansion of Lilly Library on the university’s East Campus, capping off years of planning and fundraising to bring the university’s first library into the twenty-first century.

The grant from the Indianapolis-based private foundation is its second gift, following a lead gift of $5 million in 2018, and comes just as the renovation project is scheduled to begin. Lilly Library closed to the public after final exams on May 4, and construction is expected to last two years.

When complete, Lilly will reflect a blend of original historic charm and modern features—with a footprint that will be nearly 75 percent larger. Highlights include expanded study spaces, more technology-equipped project rooms, a writing studio, a 75-seat assembly space for public programs, a film screening room, and a café. In addition, the renovation will address urgent facility needs, including improved accessibility and environmental controls.
“We are grateful for Lilly Endowment’s continued generosity in support of this project,” said Duke President Vincent E. Price. “This gift will help enhance the Duke experience for our undergraduate students, strengthen services for faculty and graduate students, and enliven East Campus for generations to come.”

Situated at the heart of the university’s East Campus designed by Julian Abele and the Horace Trumbauer architectural firm, Lilly Library is Duke’s first library. When James B. Duke’s 1924 Indenture of Trust transformed Trinity College into Duke University, the original Trinity College library was torn down and replaced by the red brick and marble building now known as Lilly. The new library opened to students in 1927, before West Campus construction was completed.

Lilly Library is named for philanthropist Ruth Lilly, a great-grandchild of pharmaceutical magnate Col. Eli Lilly, whose son and grandsons established Lilly Endowment as a charitable foundation in 1937.

In 1991, Ruth Lilly made a gift to “renovate and computerize” the library where her two nieces spent time as they attended the Woman’s College at Duke. That gift renamed the building and provided its only significant update since it was built almost a century ago.

Since then, Lilly has served as the primary library for first-year Duke undergraduate students, as well as students and faculty in academic departments based on East Campus. It is also home to Duke’s extensive art, art history, philosophy, and film collections.

Although integral to East Campus, the building lacks most of the features of a modern-day research library. The aging building was designed to serve an early twentieth-century population of 650 students. Today, approximately 1,700 first-year students live and study on East Campus, and the library plays a key role in orienting them to college-level study and research.

“This is a truly remarkable gift,” said Joseph A. Salem Jr., the Rita DiGiallonardo Holloway University Librarian and Vice Provost for Library Affairs at Duke. “The role that Lilly Library plays in the lives of our students is especially important, and this transformation will have a profound,
long-term impact. We are so grateful for Lilly Endowment’s generosity, which will enable us to create the kind of library East Campus deserves, designed with the students and scholars of today in mind.”

Members of the extended Lilly family have a long association with Duke. In 2018, Lilly Endowment’s first $5 million gift toward the renovation project was matched by a combined $5 million from William and Irene Lilly McCutchen, the Ruth Lilly Philanthropic Foundation, and Peter and Virginia Lilly Nicholas. Today, a new generation of Lilly family members include recent Duke graduates and current students, and current Duke parent Rebecca Lilly serves on the university’s Library Advisory Board.

“It is inspiring to witness the generosity of both Lilly Endowment and the multiple generations of Lilly family members. Their impact on Duke is exponential,” said Dave Kennedy, Vice President of Alumni Engagement and Development. “I am thrilled to see how our beloved and soon-to-be renovated first library will transform the Duke community—all thanks to such committed donor support.”

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based private foundation created in 1937 by J. K. Lilly and his sons, Eli and J.K. Jr., through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. While those gifts remain the financial bedrock of the Endowment, the Endowment is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct governing board, staff and location. In keeping with its founders’ wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion. The Endowment funds programs throughout the United States, especially in the field of religion, and maintains a special commitment to its founders’ hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.

Visit the Lilly Project website to see more renderings, FAQs, and follow our progress:
library.duke.edu/lilly-project
When George Grody T’81 returned to Duke in 2008 as a teacher in Markets and Management Studies, he planned to stay for just two years. But passion for his students kept him teaching, sharing lessons gained from his nearly thirty-year career as a global marketing and sales executive at Proctor & Gamble, until his retirement this spring.

As a Duke teacher, Perkins Library has become Grody’s campus home. It’s where he teaches—in a classroom in the Link that he named with a gift to the Libraries—and where he meets daily with students, working as their advocate and as an ambassador for the university.

“I’ve had my best times at Duke in the library,” says Grody. “When you think of a library, you may think of a quiet, somber place, but I don’t. I’m there to have fun.” Grody finds fun in teaching, meeting with students—whether they are
When you think of a library, you may think of a quiet, somber place, but I don't. I'm there to have fun.

Based on the popular show set in the 1960s world of advertising, for that event, students decorated the library with larger-than-life vintage ads from the Rubenstein Library. The event was a smash, inspiring future library soirees around similarly fun themes, including comic books (2012), French cabaret (2014), and murder mysteries (2017).

Grody often sits outside the library’s entrance, appreciating the beauty of the quad and the energy of the campus community around him. “For me, the library is the intellectual heart of campus,” says Grody. The library is also where Grody’s literal heart failed him. “I had a cardiac arrest and died in my classroom,” he remembers. “God was looking out for me; I looked at the statistics afterwards, and there’s no way I should have survived.” Thankfully, three Duke EMS students were studying nearby and sprang into action. With chest compressions, oxygen, and shocks from an automated external defibrillator (AED), the students saved Grody’s life.

The students in the Marketing Club later told Grody they felt helpless because they didn’t know CPR. In response, he brought together club members and Duke EMS to launch CPR training events, which have so far reached about 5,000 individuals across campus. Grody, working through the American Heart Association, also funded AEDs in public places throughout Durham.

Grody’s commitment to service reflects the personal brand which has shaped his life: “I’m obsessed with adding value to every person and organization I touch, both in the classroom and in the greater community.” Grody has added value to Duke not just by teaching and mentoring, but also through philanthropy. In addition to supporting Duke Athletics and Duke Children’s Hospital, Grody is a longtime donor to the Libraries.

In 2017 the Libraries launched the Grody Challenge, which encourages graduating Duke seniors to support the Libraries by having Grody match any gift seniors and recent grads make to our Annual Fund. Grody has also established a planned gift for the Libraries, which will support many future generations of Blue Devils. “One of the values in my brand is ‘leaving a legacy,’ and this is a way for me to do that,” he says. “I want to give back to the library, which is home to me, to add value and make things better for everybody who comes after me.”

Above: George Grody at the “Mad Men and Mad Women” library theme party he helped organize as faculty advisor to the Duke Marketing Club, 2011.

Below: Grody with three of the Duke EMS student volunteers who helped save his life in Perkins Library in 2015. From left to right are Kirsten Bonawitz, Ritika Patil, and Kevin Labagnara.
AND THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE

The Academy has the Oscars. Cannes has the Palme d’Or. Here in the Duke University Libraries, we have the DULies!

Every spring, we roll out the industrial gray carpet and gather for our annual staff awards ceremony, recognizing extraordinary job performance that far exceeds individual goals or expectations. Pictured here are this year’s distinguished awardees. Congratulations to them all!

**XIAOYAN SONG**, Electronic Resources Acquisitions and Licensing Librarian, is this year’s winner of the Great Idea Award, presented to a staff member whose idea or suggestion led to a creative solution, innovation, or improvement that allowed the Libraries to function better or enhanced service for our patrons.

**GIAO LUONG BAKER**, Digital Production Services Manager, winner of the Sara Seten Berghausen Equity and Inclusion Award, recognizing a staff member who models or helps to create a welcoming and inclusive environment in the workplace.

**HANNAH ROZEAR**, Librarian for Biological Sciences and Global Health, won the Mentoring Award, awarded to a staff member who excels at mentoring others in achieving career objectives through moral, social, and intellectual support.

**DANIEL WALKER**, Building Manager, was presented with the Florence Blakely Collaboration Award, acknowledging excellence in working with others and across departments or teams.

*Bonus: Daniel Walker was recently featured in a Working@Duke video about his job as the Libraries’ Building Manager. Scan the QR code to watch!*
One of the more fascinating finds in our special Duke Centennial exhibit, Our Duke: Constructing a Century, isn’t in a display case. It’s a wall of index cards telling us what the exhibit leaves out.

“What’s a Duke moment or memory you would like to share that you didn’t see?” reads the sign, inviting visitors to write in their own historical milestones. Some are facetious. Some are sweet. Many are sports-related, as you could probably guess. It’s a reminder that there’s the story of Duke we all know. The one-room schoolhouse that grew into a Gothic Wonderland, home to world-renowned researchers and Cameron Crazies. Then there are all the individual stories of everyone who’s ever been a student here. Each one had their own Duke experience, which was just a chapter in their larger life story.

Want to share your own Duke moment with us? Even if you can’t come to campus, visit the exhibit website and fill out the “Your Duke” form online. Responses may be preserved in the University Archives—for our bicentennial exhibit down the line.

Please visit: duke.is/ourduke
Every gift has an impact.

Your financial contribution directly supports scholarly growth, intellectual curiosity, and life-changing research at Duke.

Make a gift to the Libraries Annual Fund today.
Please visit: gifts.duke.edu/library