



University of Minnesota Libraries **2020 Annual Report**



Greetings!

Welcome to our University of Minnesota Libraries 2020 Annual Report, where we present highlights from our year.

This has been a year of transitions for me and the Libraries. I became Dean of Libraries and University Librarian in late February. Just two weeks later, in response to the pandemic caused by COVID-19, our library buildings closed – yet many of our services remained open, because of our creative staff and our investments in online resources.

Our librarians quickly adapted to online teaching, preparing presentations even as we were getting ready to close our buildings in March. Support for researchers continued remotely. Our patrons were able to take advantage of emergency temporary access to many of our holdings through the HathiTrust Digital Library.

Our service has been exemplary. Even though our Interlibrary Loan [ILL] had to pause lending and borrowing physical materials as nearly all libraries shuttered for a while, digital lending and borrowing continued to meet many researchers' needs. Since physical material lending resumed in September, our staff developed creative ways to get books and other materials to patrons – including through ILL, deliveries to residence halls, by U.S. Mail, and via digital delivery.

In September, we kicked off our strategic planning process. We intend to complete the plan in May and begin implementation in July.

Our work in the area of diversity, equity, and inclusion continued and following the killing of George Floyd, we created the Racial Equity Collections Fund, won an NEH grant for our Mapping Prejudice project, and drafted a statement that articulates our commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility.

Everyone in the Libraries has been creative and responsive under difficult circumstances this year. I am proud of all they have been able to accomplish. Looking ahead, we will face challenges, yet we will continue to move forward, together.

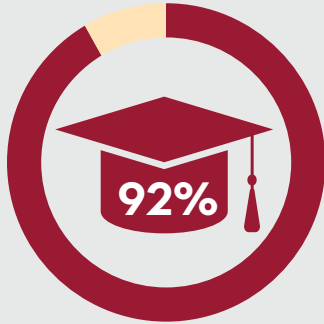
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa German".

Lisa German

*University Librarian and Dean of Libraries
McKnight Presidential Professor*

By the numbers

STUDENTS WHO USE OUR E-RESOURCES ARE

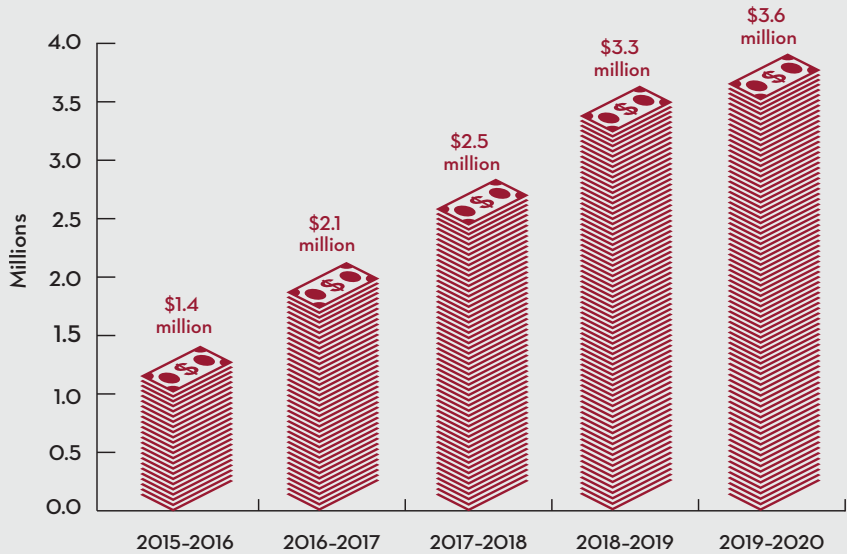


MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE IN 4 YEARS

A five-year correlational study of 5,368 first-year undergraduate students at the University of Minnesota demonstrated that using the Libraries electronic resources corresponds with a 92% increase in the odds of graduation in four years. See z.umn.edu/libgraduate

STUDENT SAVINGS

Library resources are embedded in Canvas course sites, making them easily accessible by students. This, along with multi-use e-book purchases, borrowing course material content, and publishing open textbooks has potentially saved students \$3.6 million in fiscal year 2020, and the potential savings over the past five years totals \$12.9 million.



LIBRARY USE FY20

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

31,000+

Annual research questions answered

ARTICLE DOWNLOADS

8,445,979

Journal articles from subscribed content

VISITORS

1,023,031

Annual visitors

WEBSITE VISITS

2.1+ mil

Annual visits

EBOOK DOWNLOADS

2,270,271

eBook chapter or book downloads

WORKSHOPS

1,151

Annual workshops/ classes delivered

Strategic Plan

The Libraries kicked off its strategic planning Sept. 14, 2020 with a goal of completing a draft by May, having a review period in June, and beginning implementation on July 1, 2021. The planning team has gathered input from Libraries staff, U of M students, faculty and staff, and other stakeholders. The plan will align with MPact 2025 – the University’s systemwide strategic plan, which reflects our commitment to world-class research, teaching, and service.



Implementation Date

COVID-19 Response

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Libraries shuttered its buildings and branches on March 17, 2020, while staff working from home continued online services. Staff returned in June to provide digital delivery services and to prepare buildings for fall. After extensive arrangements by facilities staff to encourage physical distancing, four libraries – Health Sciences, Magrath, Walter, and Wilson – opened for use by University faculty, staff, and students.

DURING COVID-19:

- **Digital content** became invaluable to the continuation of research and learning. The Libraries’ digital collections provided access to over 10.6 million articles and e-books. Our eResources Management unit worked tirelessly to troubleshoot problems to ensure access and our Digital Delivery staff scanned articles and book chapters from our physical collection while our buildings were still closed to users.
- **Interlibrary loan**, already a lifeline to those resources that the Libraries didn’t own, became essential. Requests for books declined, as users didn’t have any way to access books that were not in digital format. Still, we received 53,618 requests in FY20 and filled 90% of them, including the on-demand purchase of 774 e-books from March to October; usually we buy 200 a year.
- Nancy Sims, Copyright Program Librarian, wrote a guide for educators, “Rapidly shifting a course online,” which was adapted by many other institutions. While Copyright Services does not offer legal advice, it does provide welcome guidance to faculty, staff, and students.
- HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access was offered from March 31 to Aug. 12, 2020. Full-text versions of publications in HathiTrust for which the Libraries has print copies were opened to users through online access to the digital repository, providing loans of 12,536 digital books.

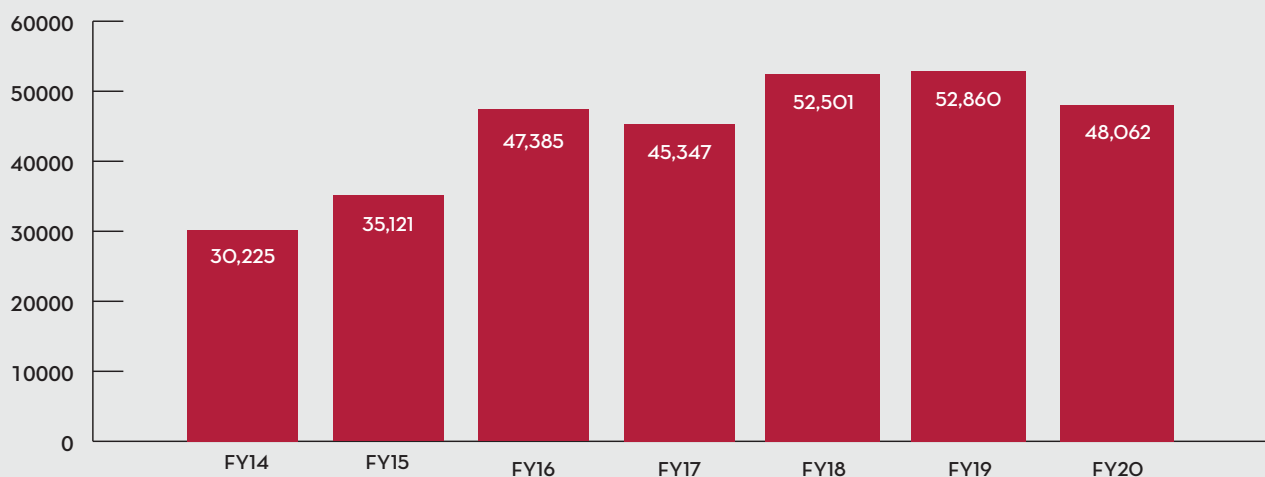
- With schools closed and children sequestered at home – many without enough books or activities to appease their curiosity – Lisa Von Drasek, Curator of the Children’s Literature Research Collections, created #OperationReadAloud to fill the gap. Through the Facebook group, with more than 1,700 members, Von Drasek pulled together children’s book authors, illustrators, and advocates to record themselves reading books aloud.

TESTIMONIALS

*Dear entire Wilson ILL staff,
Thank you all so much for your hard work during the campus shutdown. Without your continued help and support, my research would have come to a standstill.
Best, John*

*Thank you to all the library staff who are pulling items for me. Thank you for keeping our intellectual work running!!!!
Jan*

INTERLIBRARY LOANS AND DIGITAL DELIVERY FILLS



Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Committee aims to develop or improve services with inclusion in mind, reduce barriers to learning, and create a sense of belonging among all library clientele and staff. The committee recently completed a statement describing the Libraries' approach to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility. It's at lib.umn.edu/about/inclusion.

The Libraries' Racial Equity Collections Fund was established to amplify diverse voices and perspectives in all subject areas, especially with regard to race, racism, and intersectional histories of prejudice and liberation. On Give to the Max Day, more than \$3,000 was raised from more than 30 donors to support the fund. A match was provided by board members of the Friends of the University Libraries.

The Libraries has committed to seeking full funding for the Mapping Prejudice project, which will require up to \$395,000 in additional funds through Fiscal Year 2023. Mapping Prejudice received several grants in 2020, including a \$375,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Supporting Research

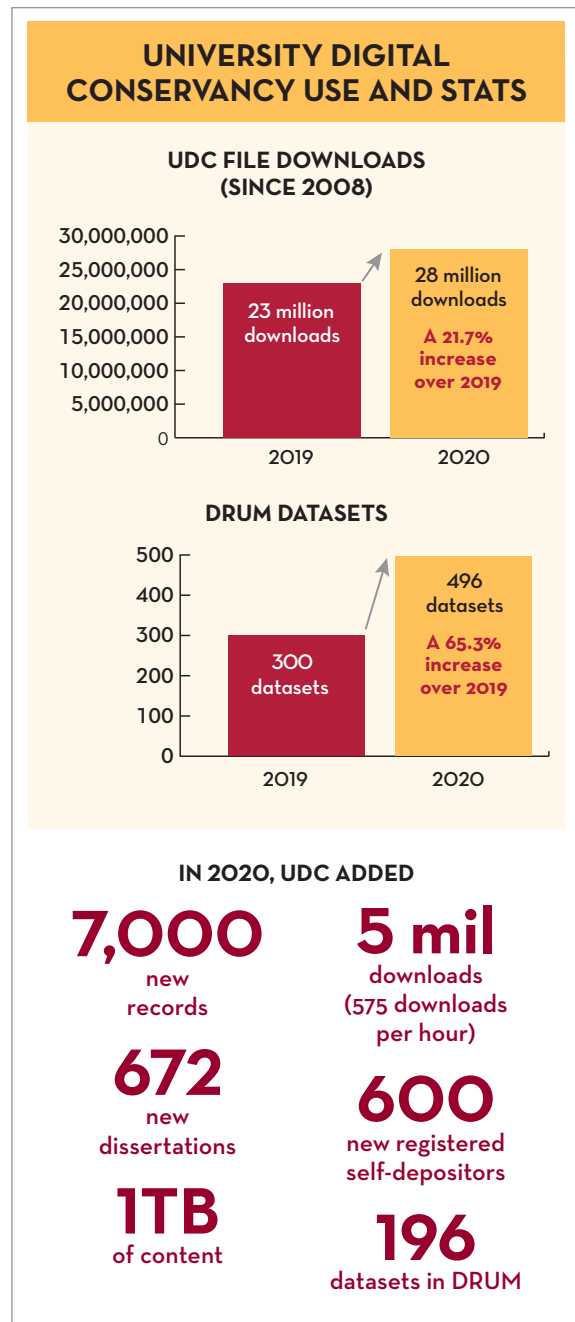
An online **Research Crash Course** was developed by the Research Data Services Team, providing early-stage graduate students with a one-hour introduction to managing data. The course included three break-out sessions on managing qualitative data, quantitative data, and human subjects data. The program attracted students from disciplines across the University preparing to carry out major research projects.

Focusing on comprehensive and transparently reported literature searches, the Libraries' **Systematic Review Service** has offered support and training for librarians outside of its traditional realm of health sciences since 2018. This year, the service has supported University research in several departments including psychology, educational psychology, agriculture, music therapy, journalism, genetic counseling, kinesiology, social work, and nutrition. This fall, U of M librarians received a three-year grant to train others outside of health sciences around the country in systematic reviews. In 2019-2020, two members of the Libraries' systematic review service were involved in the global Ceres2030 project synthesizing agricultural evidence to determine solutions to end world hunger.

The University Digital Conservancy (UDC) holds more than 85,000 articles, University documents, dissertations, datasets, and more – and provides free, public access and long-term preservation to work created at the U of M.

Our **Data Repository for the University of Minnesota (DRUM)** is a place for U of M faculty, staff, and students to share, publish, and preserve their digital research data for long-term access and future use. Anyone can search and download the data housed in the repository, instantly or by request.

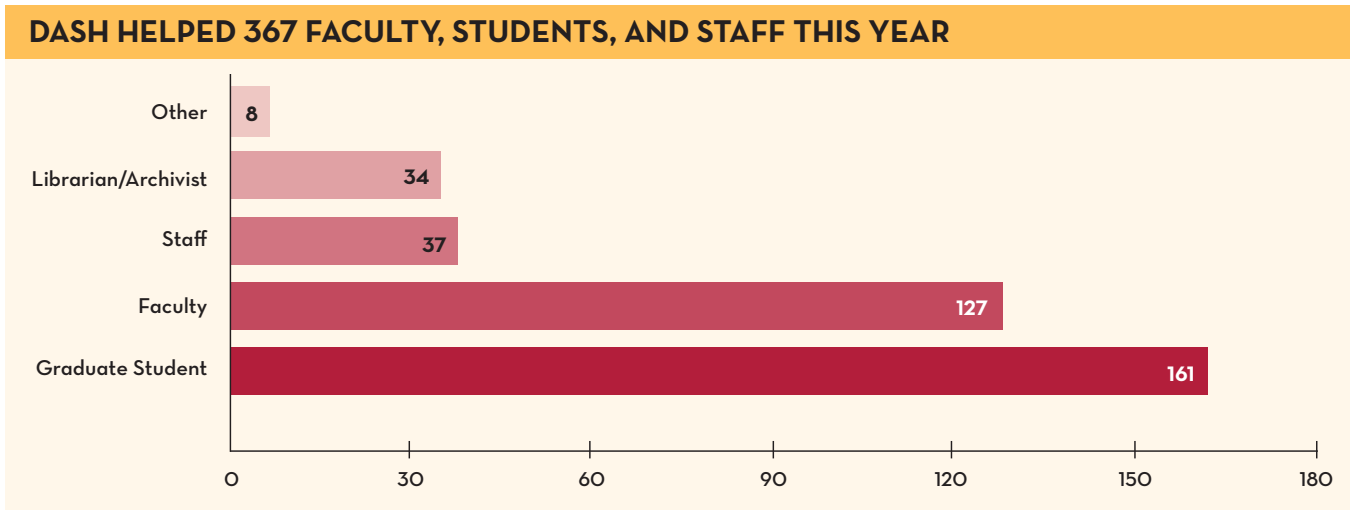
Our **Publishing Services team** has published 11,085 open access journal articles in 26 journals – nearly all journals have a U of M faculty member or student currently serving on the editorial board. Our journals represent disciplines from pharmacy to art history and media studies to ecology. Publishing Services has also published textbooks, conference proceedings, and monographs. U of M Libraries Publishing helps bring original research to readers across the globe.



Experts@Minnesota displays research profiles for people at the U of M and feeds publication lists to U of M center and department websites. But it also saves the University money by providing ready-to-use data on University research outputs for reporting to funders. And it can demonstrate U of M collaborations among colleges or campuses or with researchers around the world.



The **Digital Arts, Sciences, and Humanities (DASH)** program supports faculty and students who employ digital technologies in their research, teaching, and engagement work.



PRAISE FOR DASH

“This NEH grant was not just a vote of confidence in me, but in the whole DASH team.”

– PETER MERCER-TAYLOR,
PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF MUSIC

“I have appreciated DASH’s efforts to translate information about digital technologies into language that I can understand so that I have the necessary information to make the best decisions for my research project.”

– JULIE SANTELLA, PH.D. STUDENT,
GEOGRAPHY, SOCIETY, & ENVIRONMENT

Libraries Collaboration

The **Data Curation Network (DCN)**, led by the U of M Libraries, helps researchers preserve and share their research data in an open and ethical manner. The network includes 11 academic libraries and a non-profit digital repository. Since January 2019, the DCN has published 195 research datasets.

SINCE JANUARY 2019,
THE DCN HAS PUBLISHED

195 research
datasets

The U of M Libraries hosts the **Big Ten Academic Alliance Geportal**, which brings together 13 institutions. The discovery portal facilitates access to the most current GIS information from these institutions and their states.

The **BIG Collection Initiative** will leverage collective resources across the Big Ten Academic Alliance libraries to manage their separate collections as a single collection. The University Libraries has begun working with their peer institutions to plan the systems, policies, and services needed to create an integrated user experience of the networked collections, from discovery to delivery. Individual libraries will continue to offer distinctive collections and services focused on local needs. The Libraries' Values for collections statement supports this collaboration and has been endorsed by the Senate Library Committee.

Education

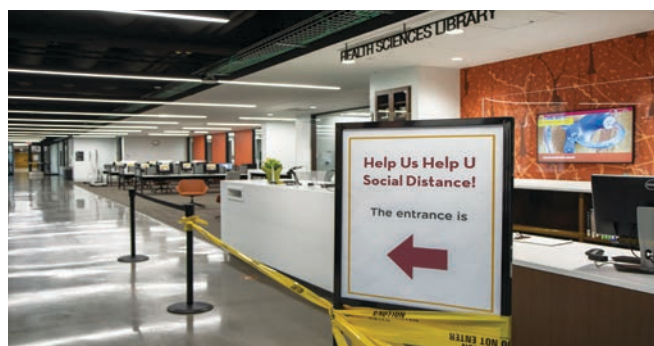
STUDENT SUPPORT

During the pandemic, the **Peer Research Consultants**, undergraduates trained to guide others in research, were much busier than usual providing online consultations.

PRC STATISTICS:

140 Fall 2019 total
consultations

162 Fall 2020 total
consultations
(a 16% increase)



The **Health Sciences Library** and the **Wangensten Historical Library** moved into the connected Health Sciences Education Center and Phillips-Wangensten Building in July 2020. The two libraries foster interprofessional education through expertise, engagement, critical content, and leading-edge technologies to advance teaching, learning, and research, and prepare the next generation of health care providers.

COURSE INTEGRATION

Libraries resources were integrated into 2,954 Canvas courses in 2020 (spring, summer, and fall semesters), providing access to library resource guides and course content, including library licensed materials, freely available materials, open textbooks and open educational resources, materials provided through fair use, and copyrighted materials needing royalty payments. The Libraries' 951 research and course guides had a total of 311,666 views in 2020.

Library tutorials – including “How to read and comprehend scientific research articles,” and “What is a library database and why should I use one” – were viewed nearly 140,000 times during spring, summer, and fall semesters.

TEACHING

For spring and fall semesters in 2020, Libraries staff taught **429 course-integrated sessions**, reaching **12,060 students**.



A space designed to nurture innovation and entrepreneurship, **the Toaster**, had to close shortly after opening in spring 2020 due to COVID. Last fall, the Toaster doors were open but with restrictions on the number of people and the use of the BreakerSpace. Virtual office hours, peer consulting, workshops, and online resources were offered.

Community Engagement



MAPPING PREJUDICE EXTENDS ITS REACH

Mapping Prejudice Project tracks structural racism in historic racial covenants that banned non-whites from owning or occupying property. In July 2020, 400 volunteers at Medtronic transcribed 5,200 deeds; many committed to spreading the word about the project to others. Over the last three years, the project team mobilized more than 3,000 volunteers who have transcribed the information to place over 24,000 racial covenants on the map of Hennepin County – and they have expanded to Ramsey County.

MINITEX BENEFITS MINNESOTANS

Minitex, a shared program of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and the University Libraries, saved Minnesota libraries \$5.27 million in FY20 through its cooperative purchasing program; shared 95,000 items from our collect-

ions with libraries across Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota in FY19; and hosted almost 50 million searches in eLibrary Minnesota in FY20.

LIBRARIES EVENTS

The fall 2020 season of Libraries events took place online in response to COVID-19. The First Fridays series of archival talks highlighted materials from the Andersen Horticultural Library, the Children’s Literature Research Collections, and the James Ford Bell Library. The online season of the Friends Forum: A Series for Curious Minds kicked off in September with the Pankake Poetry Reading, featuring Wang Ping. A second event, “Behind the headlines: Reporters and news consumers in a 24/7 media world,” brought U of M experts Gayle Golden, Lindsay Matts-Benson, and Cody Hennesy together with Star Tribune journalist Kelly Smith to take a look at the challenge of media literacy.

THE TRETTER COLLECTION’S ORAL HISTORY NEWS

Transcripts is a new podcast that puts the transgender movement in context. Using oral histories from the Tretter Transgender Oral History Project at the University Libraries, hosts Andrea Jenkins and Myrl Beam introduce listeners to the trans activists who are changing our world. Started in 2015 to document the diversity and breadth of transgender experiences, the oral history project entered Phase 2 last year. The second phase focuses on the activists working to overcome barriers that trans people experience in the areas of housing insecurity, police violence, health care, and other justice issues.

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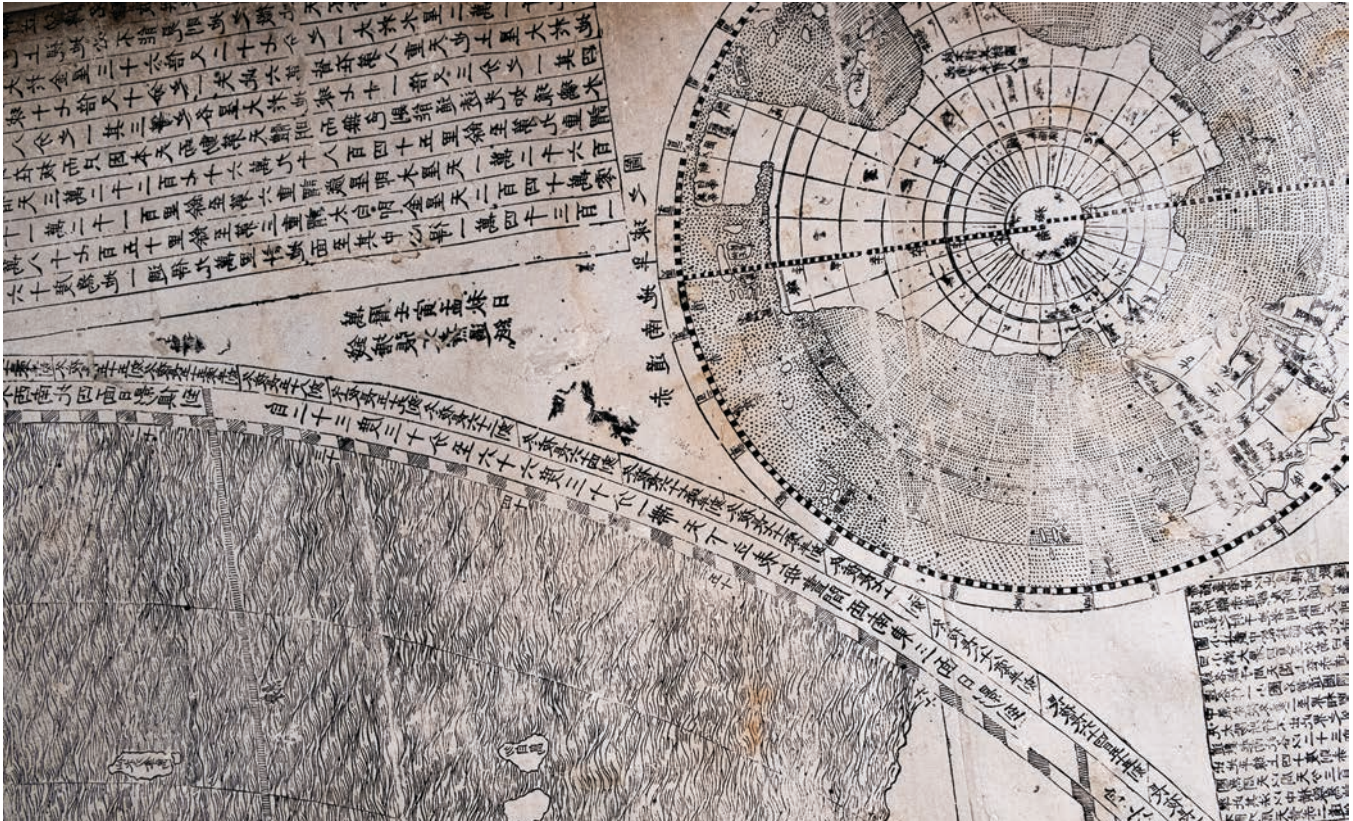
IN FY19, MINITEX

Shared almost
95,000
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and South Dakota

The infographic features three icons: a classical building with a dollar sign above it, a search bar with a magnifying glass, and a circle with an 'M' and three arrows pointing outwards.

Development

As of June 30, 2020, **the Libraries had reached 117% of our Driven campaign goal** of \$18,000,000 by raising \$21,085,207. Our goal is to raise an additional \$1,600,000 before the campaign ends June 30, 2021. Our thanks go out to the 4,431 donors who have contributed to our Driven campaign. We greatly appreciate your support. Fundraising priorities for the coming fiscal year and beyond include the creation of an endowed chair for our Children’s Literature Research Collections, \$395,000 for the Mapping Prejudice project, support for our Student Success initiative, and funding to transform our spaces. Driven is the University of Minnesota’s \$4 billion campaign.



RICCI MAP

Created for China’s imperial court in 1602, The Map of the Ten Thousand Countries of the Earth is the result of collaboration between Chinese scholars and artisans of the court and European scholars of the Jesuit mission there. Matteo Ricci led the group of Jesuits, so it has come to be called **the Ricci Map**. Donated in June 2020, this is the largest value gift ever received by the Libraries.

GRANTS

Libraries projects and programs received **\$1,162,670 in external funding** in 2020. **The Mapping Prejudice Project**, which maps deeds with racial covenants that barred non-whites from occupying properties, received grants from the NEH, the St. Paul Foundation, the City of Minneapolis, and the Andrew Porter Foundation, allowing them to deepen their community engagement and refine their toolkit. **Digital Arts, Sciences & Humanities** received ACLS & NEH grants to improve crowd-sourced transcription with hand-written character recognition and to delve into

Mexican American art. A grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Studies set up a training program to disseminate **systematic review skills** among librarians nationally. **The Tretter Podcast Project** was funded by Humanities Innovation and Virginia Humanities. The Minnesota Legacy Funds supported **digitizing a natural history collection**.

Stanford University and Carnegie Mellon funded a **linked data project**. The ALA supported a **Resilient Communities** project and a **data visualization internship**.

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Continuous appointment

In May, the Board of Regents approved promotions and continuous appointment for six librarians:

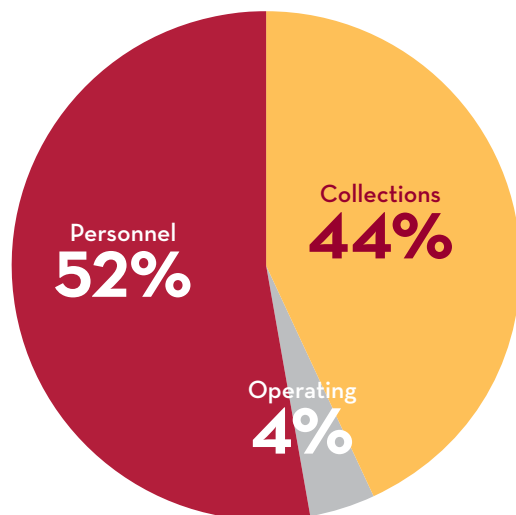
- Shanda Hunt (Public Health Librarian and Data Curation Specialist), Amy Riegelman (Social Sciences Librarian), and Nicole Theis-Mahon (Dentistry Librarian and Health Sciences Collection Coordinator) were promoted to Associate Librarian with continuous appointment.
- Ellen Engseth (Curator, Immigration History Research Center Archives, and Head, Migration and Social Services Collections) received continuous appointment as Associate Librarian.
- Kristen Mastel (Outreach and Instruction Librarian) and Lisa Von Drasek (Curator, Children’s Literature Research Collections) were promoted to full Librarian.



Behind the scenes

Among the essential work by Data and Technology staff was continued support for the growing Big Ten Academic Alliance Geoportal, UmbraSearch African American History, and the Ojibwe People’s Dictionary. They also improved the Libraries’ search function and enhanced privacy for users.

**FY 2020 LIBRARIES EXPENDITURES
(OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUND
EXCLUDING MINITEX)
\$42,088,630**



Donor profile

LIKE GRANDFATHER, LIKE GRANDSON



Ford W. Bell, DVM, has been inspired to give by outstanding people – big thinkers – with the most important being his grandfather, James Ford Bell, the founder of General Mills and a University Regent for 24 years, who was a dedicated collector of books. The James Ford Bell Library opened in 1953, as part of the Libraries, with books from the elder Bell’s collection of rare books, maps, and charts dedicated to the development of world trade in the early modern period.

As Bell prepares to move from the property where his great-grandfather had built a house in 1906, he has been examining things he inherited from his grandfather. “It’s very clear to us from his writings and what he told his children – my father and his siblings – that what mattered most to him was the Library.” The James Ford Bell Library collects books and artifacts on trade and cultural exchange up to about 1800 CE.

“It’s unique in its focus,” Bell says. “It’s clearly a world-class collection, known all over the world. That is very, very important to me, and I want to see what we can do to continue to enhance the prestige of the Library and strengthen its ability to support scholars from all over the world, something I know my grandfather would have loved.”

A veterinary oncologist by training, Bell served on the board of the Associates of the Bell Library for many years, and also serves as a trustee for the Book Trust his grandfather established. He has led Hennepin County Medical Center’s foundation, the Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, and the American Alliance of Museums in Washington, DC. He also served on the board of Mia, and was chair of the board from 2003-2005.

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Bell has been involved in some incredible acquisitions for the Bell Library, including the purchase of Matteo Ricci’s world map. This map was created under the leadership of Jesuit Matteo Ricci by artisans and scholars at China’s imperial court in 1602. It was purchased by the James Ford Bell Trust in 2009, and Ford Bell was instrumental in donating it to the Libraries in 2020. The map will continue to attract scholars from around the world, while opening perspectives in education and research for students and faculty here at the University.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Elmer L. Andersen Library

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The University's mission, carried out on multiple campuses and throughout the state, is threefold: research and discovery, teaching and learning, and outreach and public service.