LIBRARIES

Impact
Report
2024-2025

At Clemson, we pride ourselves on looking forward, on focusing on the future and maintaining our momentum to be the best university we can be. But it is sometimes important to pause for a moment and take a look back to review and celebrate our past accomplishments. In that spirit, I am excited to share this 2024-2025 impact report, which gives a glimpse into our past year in the Libraries.

This report illustrates the broad impact Clemson Libraries has on our campus and beyond, whether it is through resources and services to enhance student success, the support we provide for researchers, or the ways in which we serve the community. The Libraries are critical to the overall success of the University, and we are proud to continue to serve as a hub for scholarship, research, and creativity for Clemson.

Go Tigers!

Christopher Cox
Dean of Libraries

Vision and **Mission**

Vision:

To be the preeminent research library in the southeast by fostering unparalleled access to knowledge, cultivating a collaborative research environment, and delivering exceptional user service.

Mission:

Clemson University Libraries empowers students, faculty, researchers, and staff by fostering information and digital literacy, promoting experiential learning, offering high-quality research support, and cultivating a vibrant learning environment.

Key
Values

Access:

Providing opportunities for everyone in the community to obtain library resources and services with minimal disruption.

Intellectual Freedom:

Empowering people to think for themselves and to make informed decisions while respecting each individual's identity and independence.

Operational Excellence:

Operating with goals, values, and processes responsive to users' needs, well-articulated, fiscally accountable, ecologically sustainable, and effectively communicated.

Sustainability:

Fostering a research and knowledge ecosystem that is financially, technologically, and ecologically sustainable and prioritizes this both in business practice and advocacy work.

Collaboration:

Two or more partners bringing different strengths and perspectives to task with shared goals, vision, and a climate of trust and respect.

Community:

Process of working collaboratively with community members — be they library customers, residents, faculty, students or partner organizations — to address issues for the betterment of the community.

Innovation:

The process of renewing and updating a domain, a product, or a service by introducing new methods, techniques, or creating innovative concepts to produce new value.

Clemson Libraries by the **Numbers**

Facilities Usage: 1,401,749 visitors to all locations

1,316,932
R.M. Cooper Library

44,489
Gunnin Architecture Library

3,286
Charleston Design Center Library

29,559
Education Media Center &
Digital Media Learning Lab

7,474
CU-ICAR Branch Library

86,406 study spaces booked

Collections:

3,092,268
Collection items

1,991,873 electronic portfolios

1,100,395 physical items

39,423
items checked out

995 textbook checkouts, 72 courses
supported with textbook lending

744
databases

Interlibrary Loans:

5,751

items borrowed from other libraries

5,776

items loaned to other libraries

869

items scanned for electronic document delivery

Top 5 libraries borrowed from:

1. George Mason University
2. Auburn University
3. Virginia Commonwealth University
4. University of Kentucky
5. Wake Forest University

Top 5 libraries loaned to:

1. Greenville County Public Library
2. Charleston County Public Library
3. Eastern Kentucky University
4. Spartanburg County Public Library
5. University of Louisville

Furthest library borrowed from:

University of South Africa, Pretoria (8,351 miles away)

Furthest library loaned to:

Monash University, Victoria, Australia (9,785 miles away)

Research & Course Guides:

236 published guides
207,050 views

Top 5 viewed guides:
1. Student Resources (16,586 views)
2. 10 Step AI Challenge (7,981 views)
3. scite.ai Smart Citations (5,308 views)
4. ENGL 1030: Composition & Rhetoric (4,130 views)
5. Using AI Tools to Find Reliable Sources (3,821 views)

Reference and Instruction:

419 instruction sessions: 12,728 participants
9,910 reference questions answered
1,971 questions answered via online chat service
5,004 questions answered at Cooper services desk

Adobe Studio & Makerspace:

35,757 visits
620 space bookings
59 patron questions

Supporting the
#1 Student Experience

Architecture students create furniture for Gunnin Library

The Gunnin Architecture Library has a new addition, thanks to the work of students in a summer design-build studio.

Twenty students from the class, all architecture majors, worked on the project to design, fabricate and install a new piece of furniture for the Gunnin Library. The class, taught by Joel Brown, lecturer and manager of the Craft and Computation Labs for the School of Architecture, was titled digital fabrication in architecture. The idea for the class came about in the Spring semester, when the Gunnin Library hosted a design charette to get input from architecture students on how to best use its space to meet students' needs.

More seating in the library, especially window seating, was one of the needs identified in the charette, and after consulting with Gunnin Library Director Ann Holderfield, Brown thought it would make a great project for his design-build studio.

Students worked together in pairs to come up with design concepts, which were then narrowed down to the final design. The students then divided into teams to tackle different aspects of the project, such as fabrication, installation, documentation of the process, and the presentation of the finished product. The result was a 40-foot-long, three-piece table made from Red Oak sourced from campus trees that had been cut down. The table has many curves that allow for different seating configurations and perspectives; because of the curves, the depth of the table varies from 6 feet in some places to 16 inches at others. The top of the table features topographical carvings based on the actual topography of Clemson's campus.

Students were involved in every step of the process, from meeting with Holderfield to discuss the library's needs to gluing and screwing the table together. Brown said the whole goal of the class was to give students a true real-world experience.

The table now sits against the windows in the Gunnin Library overlooking a courtyard, providing additional workspace and seating for students and other patrons.

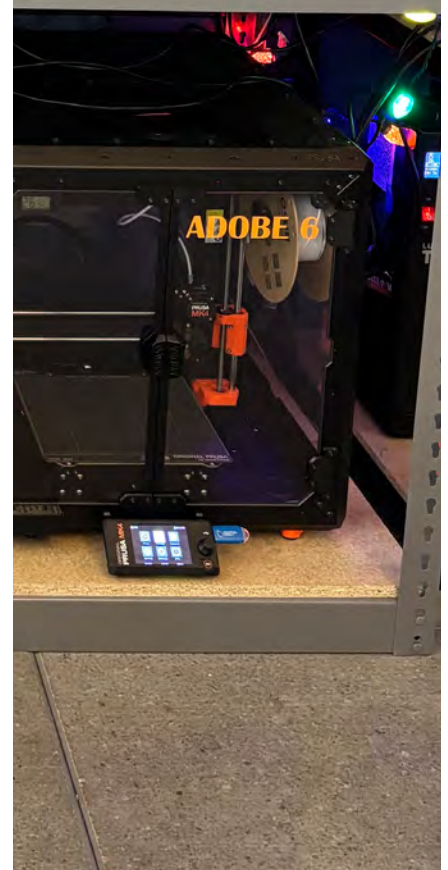## New equipment in the Adobe Studio and Makerspace

The Adobe Studio and Makerspace, located on the fifth floor of Cooper Library, has a variety of new items that students, faculty, and staff can use in their creative projects.

The newest technology includes a Roland sticker printer, which allows users to perform full-color printing on a variety of different types of vinyl, including white, matte, holographic, or clear. The printer also comes with a heat transfer vinyl that can press designs onto shirts or other materials.

Additionally, the Makerspace is now home to the Cricut Maker 3, a vinyl cutting machine with the ability to cut over 300 types of materials.

Students, faculty, and staff also have access to a fully computerized Brother embroidery machine alongside embroidery digitizing software. Users can embroider their own design or select from the machine's preprogrammed fonts and patterns.

Rounding out the list of new equipment are 16 Prusa Mark 4 3D printers, which allow for more high-quality prints in a variety of filament colors.
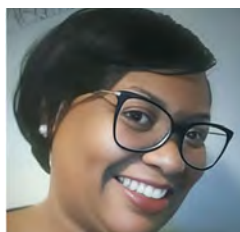
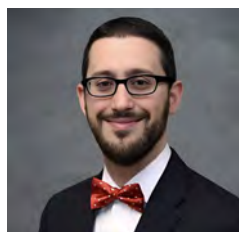## Libraries awards four faculty for using Open Education Resources

Clemson Libraries has awarded four faculty with the Open Educational Resources Faculty Award for Fall 2025 for implementing low- or no-cost materials into their classes. The estimated savings on textbooks and other learning materials for the students in these classes is approximately $205,083.

Open Educational Resources (OER) are instructional materials, such as textbooks and homework systems, that are openly licensed, free to use and place few limits to distribution and modification. The award provides $1,000-$1,500 to faculty who incorporate OER or other free or low-cost materials into their classes, making the courses textbook cost free or keeping costs per student to $35 or below.

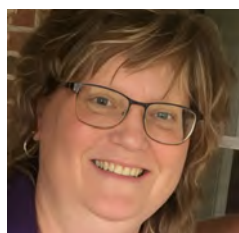## The OER Faculty Award Recipients for Fall 2025:

LaCresha Green, senior lecturer in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, who is using OER in her business writing class. Around 100 students will be impacted by the change, saving approximately $7,599 in cost.

Stephen Phillips, lecturer of political science, is integrating OER into his American national government classes, impacting about 140 students. Estimated savings for these students is $7,000 for the semester.

Ethan Kung, associate professor of mechanical engineering, who is implementing OER into his class on the foundations of thermal and fluid systems, helping 80 students save about $19,120.

April Thomas, senior lecturer and course coordinator in the School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences, has switched all 16 sections of introductory business statistics to using OER materials. This change impacts 1,080 students with an estimated cost savings of $171,364.

Supporting the
Research Enterprise

Scholars' Lab renamed Data Visualization Lab

Everyone knows that Cooper Library is a great place for studying and help with research, but did you know that you can also get help with data? The Data Visualization Lab located in room 413, formerly known as the Scholars' Lab, is available to assist students, faculty and staff with a variety of data-related needs, from analysis to visualization to digital research methods.

Students, faculty and staff are welcome to set up appointments or walk-in to get help from the lab's graduate student assistants. The lab also hosts workshops and lunch-and-learn sessions throughout the semester.

The lab features hardware, such as a 3D modeling table, an Anatomage Table and large presentation screens, as well as data visualization software, such as Excel, Tableau, Power BI, Python and MATLAB, but what truly sets it apart from other resources on campus is the expertise of its graduate assistants, who are available to assist users of any skill level with their data projects.

New resources to help researchers

Clemson Libraries is constantly looking for new tools, resources and services to ensure that students, faculty, and staff have everything they need to succeed. Here are some highlights of new electronic and physical resources that we have to offer.

EndNote is one of the most popular reference and citation management software used to organize research citations, manage bibliographies, and streamline the process of writing and publishing scholarly papers. EndNote can help users when writing essays and articles with formatting references in various citation styles, attaching PDFs to references, exporting references from databases, inserting citations and compiling bibliographies in Microsoft Word and Google Docs.

"The lab is here to support anyone on campus with their data — with sharing it, making visualizations with it, making it viewable and accessible," said Data Services Librarian Stacie Powell. "We not only offer training on how to use data visualization software, but we also offer assistance to more advanced users who might need help with coding or other issues."
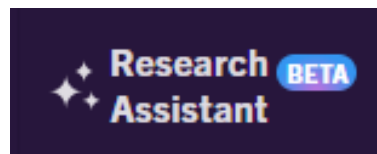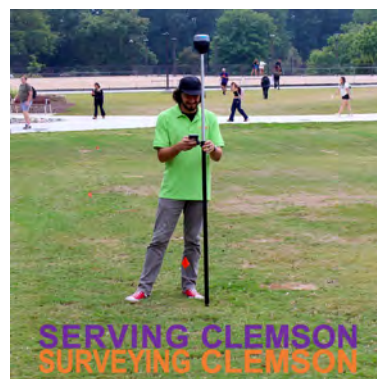
Elsevier is one of the world's leading scientific publishers and data analytics companies. A new three-year contract with the Libraries will allow faculty, staff and students to not only access Elsevier's large catalog of journals and articles, but will also allow Clemson researchers to publish their work in Elsevier's open access journals. The subscription includes access to ScienceDirect, which includes more than 5,300 journals and more than 36,370 books, as well as 2,900 other journals published by Elsevier. The open access publishing agreement will allow faculty and graduate student researchers to publish their work in Elsevier's journals without paying the publishing charge that most journals require.

Primo Research Assistant is a generative artificial intelligence tool to help students, faculty and staff search library resources more efficiently. It's like having ChatGPT specifically search for items in the Libraries' catalog. The Research Assistant allows users to ask any research question, and all results will stem from books, journals, and other publications already available in the Clemson Libraries catalog. Research Assistant will also provide an AI-generated overview of the five sources most relevant to the research question and give users the option to view more sources in the catalog if necessary.

The Economist is an independent global news organization that exists to help readers "grasp the great drivers of change, from technology to geopolitics, finance and economics," according to their mission statement. Clemson students, faculty, and staff can now access The Economist online through the Libraries and will be able to view all that The Economist offers, including articles, videos, podcasts, newsletters, and more.

GPS Surveying equipment is now available to check out from Cooper Library thanks to a partnership with the Clemson Center for Geospatial Technologies. GPS survey equipment, also known as GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite Systems), enables the collection of highly accurate location data in the field. These GPS systems are increasingly used with drones to capture high-resolution imagery of research areas.

The Clemson Center for Geospatial Technologies offers workshops on Field Data Collection each semester, which will now teach students how to collect data with these survey mapping GPS units so they are able to go out and conduct their own research.

Clemson OPEN

TigerPrints institutional repository renamed Clemson Open

Clemson University has a new name for its institutional digital repository and publishing platform. Formerly known as TigerPrints, the repository is now called Clemson Open.

Managed by Clemson University Press, Clemson Open includes open access scholarly works produced by Clemson faculty, staff, and students, as well as a collection of open access journals, conference proceedings, theses, and dissertations. Clemson University Press Director Alison Mero said the new name better reflects the purpose and mission of the repository.

In addition to scholarly publications, Clemson Open includes historical collections, such as all volumes of the Taps yearbook, an archive of The Tiger student newspaper dating back to 1907, Board of Trustees meeting minutes, and archives of football programs and other athletics publications.

Clemson faculty, staff, and students may also submit their own work for publication on Clemson Open. Clemson Open is free and available to anyone to access at open.clemson.edu.

Serving the State
and Beyond

Local high school students get leg up on research with help from Clemson Libraries

More than 90 students from two area high schools got some extra help from Clemson Libraries to kick off the school year. Students from AP Research and AP Seminar classes at Daniel and Wren high schools took field trips to Cooper Library to get some research tips from librarians and access databases and other resources that they may not be able to access elsewhere.

For the classes, students must choose and research a particular topic the entire year. For AP Seminar, students must write essays through the year and prepare a final presentation on their topic. For AP Research, students design and conduct a year-long, research-based investigation to address a specific question. Students chose a variety of topics for their projects, from election media coverage to bone damage in domestic chicken species to the regulation of artificial intelligence. Because Clemson Libraries has librarians dedicated to specific subject areas, students were able to get personalized assistance on every topic.

Librarians received the list of topic areas in advance and "crowdsourced" the best databases and search strings to use for each topic.

Because most of the online resources the students needed to use are limited to only Clemson students, faculty and staff, the high schoolers were given temporary login access during their visit.

Chrissy Barbusca, an English teacher at Wren High School, said the experience gave her students a whole new perspective on Clemson.

"We had a little debrief session after the visit, and the students were all still wide-eyed about how kind and helpful everyone was and about the vastness of resources made available to them," Barbusca said. "I enjoy seeing how these kids who have grown up going to Clemson football games and think they know all things Clemson are completely stunned to have gained this new angle on the University."

Thomas Green Clemson's will to be housed at Special Collections and Archives

The original will of Thomas Green Clemson — the document that led to the founding of Clemson University — has a new home in Clemson's Special Collections and Archives.

The will was previously housed in Oconee County Probate Court in Walhalla, South Carolina, and Probate Court Judge Danny Singleton signed a long-term loan to allow the will and several other papers related to Clemson's estate to be moved to Special Collections and Archives. The will is now displayed in Special Collections and Archives located on the first floor of the Strom Thurmond Institute.

The loan of the will and other papers was initiated by Singleton, who thought this important piece of University history should be displayed on campus.

"Shortly after taking office as the Probate Judge, I had the opportunity to review Thomas Green Clemson's will and other contents. I was amazed at the detail of the will and its condition," Singleton said. "While reading the documents, I realized the significance of his will and the historical impact that Mr. Clemson not only had for this community but also for the state. Now, history shows us that Clemson University is known worldwide. It struck me that without the will of Thomas Green Clemson, there would be no Clemson University. I reached out to President Clements with the wish to share these documents with the University and possibly have them publicly displayed in a way that would continue the preservation and give the documents the respect they deserve."

Along with the will, Special Collections and Archives also received Anna Maria Calhoun Clemson's will and records that detail the contents of the Fort Hill estate.

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Greenville News, Anderson Independent-Mail donate photo negatives to Special Collections and Archives

Millions of historic photos from across the Upstate will be preserved and made accessible to the public thanks to a donation from The Greenville News and Anderson Independent-Mail newspapers to Special Collections and Archives.

The collection includes more than 4 million photo negatives dating back to the early 1900s taken by photographers at both newspapers. The process started when The Greenville News moved to a smaller office building. They no longer had space to store their photo negatives, so they reached out to the Upcountry History Museum to inquire about how to preserve the collection. Dana Thorpe, chief executive officer of the museum, put them in touch with Brenda Burk, who was then head

of Clemson Special Collections and Archives, and the process began to move the collection.

During this same timeframe, the Anderson Independent-Mail was moving out of its office location and also wanted to find a way to preserve its photo archive.

The photos cover a broad range of subjects, from every-day life in the Upstate to historic events, making them a valuable resource for anyone who wants to learn about the history of the region.

Special Collections and Archives is still in the process of acquiring the photos from The Greenville News. The collection will be made available to the public in the future, but preserving, cataloging, and digitizing such an extensive collection will take time.

Special Collections and Archives launches Research Travel Award Program

Clemson University Special Collections and Archives (SCA) has created a new Research Travel Award to assist researchers from across the country in visiting SCA to conduct their research. The award provides financial support for master's or doctoral graduate students or established scholars to visit and conduct original research in SCA.

Researchers can receive up to $5,000, which can be used towards travel and accommodation in Clemson for the purpose of visiting SCA and accessing its collections for their research. SCA specializes in collections related to political, military, agriculture and local history.
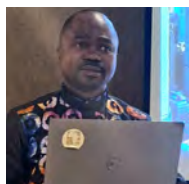
2025 Recipients

Adam Hogan, doctoral candidate in history at Texas Tech University

Justine Truc, doctoral candidate in history at the University of South Carolina, specializing in modern American history

Yomi Ejikunle, doctoral candidate in the Department of Pan-African Studies at the University of Louisville and certified public historian

Special Collections and Archives lends Medal of Honor to National Medal of Honor Museum

Special Collections and Archives is loaning a Medal of Honor from their collection — one of the rarest artifacts under its care — to the National Medal of Honor Museum.

The medal belonged to Clemson College alumnus Daniel A.J. Sullivan '1902, who received the nation's highest military decoration for extraordinary heroism during WWI as an officer aboard the USS Christabel destroyer on May 21, 1918. Sullivan's medal is one of the rarest Medals of Honor designs, the Tiffany Cross. Designed by the Tiffany Company in 1919, fewer than 30 of the medals were awarded before the design was changed in 1942.

"We are very proud to be able to share the story of one of our great alumni and his heroism, which saved lives on a ship USS Cristobal during World War I," said Dean of Libraries Christopher Cox. "Preserving and sharing

Special Collections and Archives by the numbers:

10,763 items in digital collections

482 reference questions answered

395 patron visits

109 instruction sessions for 2,071 people

92 scans for researchers

87 new donations received

Clemson University's history is a big part of what we do with the Libraries, and military heritage is an important part of that history. We're honored to be able to loan this rare Tiffany Cross Medal of Honor to the National Medal of Honor Museum and contribute to the understanding and appreciation of our nation's military."

Greg Waters, director of curatorial affairs for the museum, traveled from his home in Arlington, Texas, to sign the paperwork and receive the medal from Cox during a short ceremony. Waters said the push for establishing a National Medal of Honor Museum has been happening for about six years, with ground broken about two years ago.

Sullivan's Medal of Honor is the 43rd that the museum has procured for its exhibits. According to Waters, there are only 60 living Medal of Honor recipients.

Thomas Green Clemson carriage sent to Ohio for restoration

A piece of Clemson University history is now in Ohio being restored and preserved for future generations to view and learn from.

The one-horse carriage that belonged to Clemson University founder Thomas Green Clemson was delivered to Weaver Wagons in Dalton, Ohio, in late March, where it will be restored to its original condition in a process that will take more than a year.

The carriage was formerly housed in Sikes Hall when it was the library, but it was moved out in 1966 when Cooper Library opened and Sikes Hall was converted to administrative offices. From 1966 to 2019 it sat in the carriage house at Pendleton's historic Woodburn Plantation, where it was largely forgotten. One former Clemson resident, however, didn't forget.

Jim Thompson, now a resident of Isle of Palms, grew up in Clemson. He has many fond memories of campus, especially spending time in the library in Sikes Hall, where he saw the carriage many times.

In 2019, Thompson was serving on the South Carolina Historical Society's Board of Managers. He was attending a board event at Woodburn and saw the carriage in the carriage house on a tour of the plantation. It was not in good condition.

Thompson offered to help cover the cost of restoring the carriage, and thanks to his support, that work is currently underway. The carriage will one day be on display at the proposed Clemson History Museum and Interpretive Center.

The carriage dates back to the 1840s, and University Historian Otis Pickett said the work being done on it right now should also help reveal more about its origins. He said it would have likely been used for travel around the local area, such as to meetings in Pendleton. Pickett said it was a relatively small carriage for someone of Clemson's stature, who stood about 6'6".

Pickett said he hopes seeing the carriage will inspire others the same way it did Thompson all those years ago

"Being in a Clemson history museum as a child led him to make this gift to help save this piece of our past," said Pickett. "Being able to see and interact with history is about more than learning dates. It changes people."

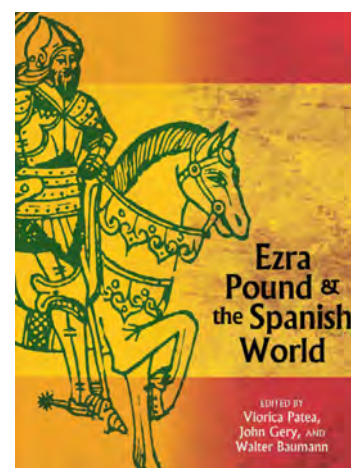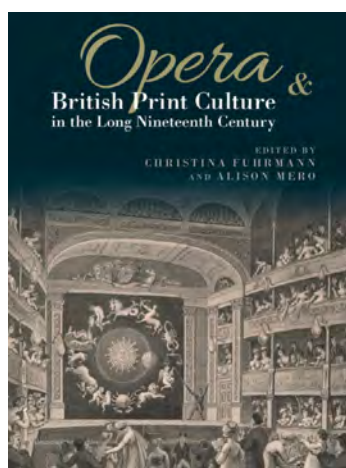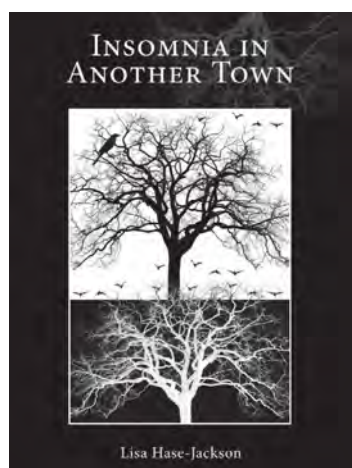# Three Clemson University Press books recognized with awards

Three books recently published by Clemson University Press have been recognized with national awards.

Insomnia in Another Town, a poetry book by Lisa Hase-Jackson in the Clemson-Converse Literature Series received the Nelson Poetry Book Award from the Kansas Author's Club. The Converse-Clemson Literature Series is a partnership with the Converse University Low Residency MFA program to publish poetry collections, short-story collections, and creative nonfiction.

Opera and British Print Culture in the Long Nineteenth Century, edited by Christina Furhmann and Alison Mero, won the 2024 H. Robert Cohen/RIPM Award from the American Musicological Society. The award honors a

work of scholarship each year of "exceptional merit" based upon 18th-, 19th-, and 20th-century periodical literature related to music. The book examines how print culture in the 19th century helped share operatic culture and the intersections between opera and literature.

Ezra Pound and the Spanish World, edited by Viorica Patea, John Gery, and Walter Baumann, received the 2024 Award for Best Collection of Essays on Culture in English Language from AEDEAN (the Spanish Association of Anglo-American Studies). The collection gathers criticism on poet Ezra Pound's lifelong involvement with Spain and Spanish culture, as well as his own writing on Spain that is not accessible elsewhere.

Clemson University Press by the numbers:

413,092 open-access journal downloads from across the globe

13 books and **14** journal issues published

20 new books contracted

Three Clemson University Press books recognized with awards

Clemson University Press teamed up with Hub City Press, University of North Georgia Press, and University of South Carolina Press to host the first-ever Piedmont Publishing Symposium at Wofford College. Seventy-three people attended the symposium, which was designed to provide authors with a learning and networking opportunity among the publishing community in South Carolina and the Southeast region.

The event offered eight sessions for different audiences — academic writers, non-academic writers, publishing professionals, and students and recent graduates who wanted to learn more about publishing. Topics covered ranged from book production to marketing and selling to writing a book proposal and more.

The next symposium is scheduled for May 20-21, 2026.

Faculty and Staff
Achievements

New hires

Joni Addis, eCollections Access and Licensing Librarian
Gloria Aragon, Open Educational Resources Production Editor
Joe Bradford, IT Consultant
Maired Downes, Curator of Collections and Exhibits
Kaitlyn DuBois, Library Specialist
Amal Mostafa, Scholarly Communications Librarian
Yash Mulakala, Data Visualization Specialist
Kelly Riddle, Director of Digitization and Digital Projects
Emily Shelton, University Archivist
Patrick Stephenson, Adobe Studio and Makerspace Manager
Melissa Stevenson, eResources Specialist
Chuhao Wu, Strategic Assessment Librarian

Promotions or new positions

Shamella Cromartie, received tenure and promoted to Associate Librarian
Alexis Dale, Instruction Projects Manager
Chris Vidas, received tenure and promoted to Associate Librarian
Tara Wood, Outreach and Instruction Archivist

Awards, publications, presentations and other achievements

Joni Addis: appointed to PASCAL's Consortial Purchasing Committee; presented "Soft Skills in Libraries: Fostering Connection and Collaboration" at 2025 PASCAL Member Conference

Cath Bruhnke: presented "Revolt and Remix: How Benchy-Gate Sparked Community Resistance and Open-Source Exploration in My Academic Makerspace" at Metrolina Library Association Annual Conference 2025; presented "Navigating the Future of Media: Implications, Opportunities, and Best Practices for AI-Generated Media" and the poster "Beyond Engineering: Unleashing the Universal Benefits of Makerspaces in Academic Libraries" at Association of Creative Technologies in Academic Libraries Conference 2024; presented "Generative AI for Library Staff" and the poster "Beyond Engineering: Unleashing the Universal Benefits of Makerspaces for All" at South Carolina Library Association Annual Conference 2024

Karen Burton: elected chair-elect of AgNIC, the Agriculture Network Information Collaborative; published "Supporting Early Career Academic Librarians: A Scoping Review of Research Literature on Early Career Professional Development Initiatives" in Journal of Academic Librarianship; published "No One Owns That: Metadata, Copyright, and the Problems with Vendor Agreements" and "Recovering America's Greatest Lost Fruits, Grains, and Vegetables: A Progress Report" in Reports of Meetings 2024 Charleston Conference; published a book review in Journal of Agricultural & Food Information; published a book chapter titled "Continuing Medical Education Coordinator" in Career Options in Library and Information Services: First-Hand Accounts from Working Professionals; published "Acting in Self-Defense: The Creation of an Online Systematic Review Tutorial to Assist Librarian Consultations" in Public Services Quarterly; published "Expanding Horizons: From Information to Inspiration at the AAAS Annual Meeting" in Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship; published a book review in The Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communications; presented "Galactic Guardians: Strategies to Evade Predatory Publishing Traps" at Spring Forward 2025; panelist on predatory publishing at Florida Health Sciences Library Association 2025 Annual Meeting; presented "Smartsheet: Making Your Research Smarter, Not Harder" at Institute for Research Design in Libraries Online Research Conference; presented "From Inquiry to Innovation: Librarians' Expanding Role in Scholarly Integrity" at STEM Librarians South

Michelle Colquitt: published a chapter titled "Disrupting the Academic Librarian Hiring Process Through Transparent Communication" in the book Toward Inclusive Academic Librarian Hiring Practices; published a resource review in Katina

Magazine; published "Object Lessons: A Session Review of Cataloging Objects for Circulation" in OLAC Newsletter; published "Other Duties as Assigned: Reaching New Heights Through Changes" in NASIG Proceedings; led a workshop titled "Electronic Resources Management 101" at the PASCAL Member Conference; presented "Browser Changes and Impacts to Library Authentication: Where are We Today, and Where are We Going in the Future?" at Electronic Resources and Libraries 2025; presented "DLC: Managing FDLP Digital Publications in Your Library Catalog: Survey Findings" at the 2024 Federal Depository Library Conference

Camille Cooper: presented the poster "Natural Selection: (Re-)(e)valu(at)ing the Liaison's Role in Collection Development" and presented "Why Your Collection Needs Title-by-Title Selection" at the Charleston Conference

Chris Cox: presented "Empowering Education: Championing AI Awareness on Campus" at the 2024 Teaching and Learning with AI Conference

Shamella Cromartie: published a chapter titled "Setting the Tone: Encouraging Boundaries for Better Workplace Outcomes in Academic Libraries" in Well-Being in the Library Workplace: A Handbook for Managers; published a chapter titled "Disrupting the Academic Librarian Hiring Process Through Transparent Communication" in the book Toward Inclusive Academic Librarian Hiring Practices; published a chapter titled "Inclusive Pedagogy: Foundations for Praxis in the Collegiate Classroom" in the book Developing Culturally Responsive Learning Environments in Postsecondary Education; presented "Transform Your Library Research: The Power of Inclusive Advisory Boards" at the Association of College & Research Libraries 2025; presented "A Flood of Problems: An Emergency Response and Future Preparedness" at the 2025 PASCAL Preconference in Emergency Preparedness and Response; presented "Methodological Choices Matter: Designing Culturally Responsive Research for LIS" at the 8th Americal Librarians Conference; presented "A Blueprint for New Library Leadership: Insights from Three Associate Deans" at the South Carolina Library Association; presented "Co-developing AI Policy with Students, Families, and Your Community" at the New Tech Network

Jim Cross: published "Washington Beat" in Society of Georgia Archivists Magazine; published a book chapter titled "Out of Many, One: A Unified Approach to Inclusive Description at Clemson University" in the book Inclusive Cataloging: Histories, Context and Reparative Approaches

Lita Davis: graduated with Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Clemson University

Katilyn DuBois: graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Clemson University; won the Roger B. Rollin English Essay Award from Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society for her essay "Suspended Time and the Predation of the Eagle: Symbolic Oppression and Resilience in Addonia's Silence is My Mother Tongue"

Scott Dutkiewicz: published an article titled "Successful Subject Headings for Moving Image Resources" in South Carolina Libraries Journal; published a book chapter titled "Out of many, one: A unified approach to inclusive description at Clemson University" in the book Inclusive Cataloging: Histories, context and reparative approaches; presented "Successful Subject Headings for Moving Image Resources" at the South Carolina Library Association Conference 2024; presented "Standards and Best Practices for Assigning Subject Headings to Moving Images" at the OLAC Conference 2024

Anne Grant: graduated with a Ph.D. in Learning Sciences from Clemson University; published a chapter titled "Disrupting the Academic Librarian Hiring Process Through Transparent Communication" in the book Toward Inclusive Academic Librarian Hiring Practices; published "Why Does SoTL Happen in a Librarian Free Zone?" in College and Research Libraries; presented "Coordinating AI Literacy Integration" at the OPAL Professional Development Day; presented "Generative AI Tools for Libraries" at the South Carolina Library Association

Drew Griffin: published an essay titled "These are Magic Words: On Trauma-Informed Pedagogy in Ethnographic Fieldwork" in the book Trauma-Informed Pedagogy and the Post-Secondary Music Class

Jennifer Groff: presented "Generative AI Tools for Libraries" at the South Carolina Library Association

Charlotte Grubbs: published an article titled "Successful Subject Headings for Moving Image Resources" in South Carolina Libraries Journal

Ann Holderfield: presented "Library as Site: Experiential Learning within the Physical and Conceptual Space of the Library" at the Art Libraries Society of North America 53rd Annual Conference; presented "Collaborating to Connect: Red Oak Reuse" at the Association of Architecture School Librarians 47th Annual Conference; presented "Experiential Learning in the Architecture Library" at the Art Libraries Society of North American Southeast Chapter Annual Conference

Tomeka Jackson: presented "Peer Mentoring as a Superpower: How Resident Librarians/Archivists Achieve Mastery" at Rare Books & Manuscripts Section Conference; presented "AI in Cataloging Pitfalls and Opportunities" lightning talk to PASCAL; presented "Incorporating AI Tools for Efficient Cataloging and Metadata" at OPAL Professional Learning Day 2025; presented "Conscious Description is Everyone's Work" at Society of Southwest Archivists Hybrid Annual Meeting 2025; presented the poster "AI tools in Cataloging" at both AI4Libraries Conference and the South Carolina Library Association Conference 2024; presented "Standards and Best Practices for Assigning Subject Headings to Moving Images" at OLAC Conference 2024; panelist in discussion "Advocacy Begins with You: Choosing Residency Programs to Promote Value" at the National Conference of African American Librarians

Jen Jones: published an article titled "Successful Subject Headings for Moving Image Resources" in *South Carolina Libraries Journal*

Jessica Kohout-Tailor: presented "Cooper Library Reflection Room" at the ASERL Membership Meeting; presented "Tailoring Student Staff Projects as Ethics of Care" at the Student Employment in Academic Libraries Symposium

Amanda McLeod: published "Supporting Early Career Academic Librarians: A Scoping Review of Research Literature on Early Career Professional Development Initiatives" in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*; published "Now Boarding: An Exploration of Onboarding Experiences in Libraries" in The Proceedings of the ACRL 2025 Conference; published a book chapter titled "Social Sciences and Government Information Librarian" in the book *Career Options in Library and Information Services: First-Hand Accounts from Working Professionals*

Chris Morris: presented "Coordinating AI Literacy Integration" at OPAL Professional Development Day; presented "Generative AI Tools for Libraries" at the South Carolina Library Association

Amal Mostafa: presented "Empowering Knowledge: Advancing Open Access and Scholarly Communication Education for a Better Future" at the South Carolina Library Association Annual Conference 2024

Renna Redd: received Volunteer of Excellence Award from Girl Scouts Mountains to Midlands; appointed to PASCAL's Collaborative Collection Committee; presented "Successful Submissions: How to Write a Conference Proposal" at LibLearnX; presented "Making Shared Print Work: Data, Tools, and Workflows for Monographic Shared Print Collections" at the Charleston Conference; presented "Here It Is!? Debating Document Delivery Practices" at the Southeastern Resource Sharing Conference; presented "Beyond Borders, Beyond Basics: The Value of International Resource Sharing" at both the Northwest Interlibrary Loan Conference and the American Library Association Annual Meeting

Nick Richbell: presented "Conscious Description is Everyone's Work" at Society of Southwest Archivists Hybrid Annual Meeting 2025; panelist for "On the Job Hunt: Perspectives and Advice" at the TPS Collective

Kelly Riddle: participated in Birds of a Feather session titled "Conscious Conversations: A Conscious Description Practices Exchange" at the Best Practices Exchange; presented "Conscious Description is Everyone's Work" at Society of Southwest Archivists Hybrid Annual Meeting 2025; presented "Fits and Starts: Onboarding into an Old Role as a New Leader" at Code4Lib 2025; gave a webinar titled "Clemson Libraries Digital Preservation Workflow" for the Digital Preservation Coalition Workflow Webinar Series

Suzanne Rook Schilf: published "A Study of LLM-Powered Student Query Support" in ACM MexIHC Conference Proceedings

Jessica Serrao: published a book chapter titled "Out of Many, One: A Unified Approach to Inclusive Description at Clemson University" in the book Inclusive Cataloging: Histories, Context and Reparative Approaches; participated in Birds of a Feather session titled "Conscious Conversations: A Conscious Description Practices Exchange" at the Best Practices Exchange; presented "Conscious Description is Everyone's Work" at Society of Southwest Archivists Hybrid Annual Meeting 2025; presented "Building Job Satisfaction for All: How Libraries Can Improve Workplace Culture for Tomorrow" and "South Carolina Digital Library (SCDL) Showcase: SCDL in the Upstate" at the South Carolina Library Association Annual Conference; gave a lecture titled "Leading the Charge" at the Association of Research Libraries IDEAL 2024 Conference

Sahara Smith: presented "Peer Mentoring as a Superpower: How Resident Librarians/Archivists Achieve Mastery" at Rare Books & Manuscripts Section Conference; presented "Navigating a Library Career as a Black Creative" at the South Carolina Library Association Conference

Sally Smith: published "Supporting Early Career Academic Librarians: A Scoping Review of Research Literature on Early Career Professional Development Initiatives" in Journal of Academic Librarianship; published a book review in Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries; published "Acting in Self-Defense: The Creation of an Online Systematic Review Tutorial to Assist Librarian Consultations" in Public Services Quarterly; presented "Replace, Reduce, Refine: The Librarian's Role in Supporting IACUC" at the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association; presented a lightning talk titled "Paws to Paws: Using AI to Create an Interactive Apples to Apples Game" and a poster titled "Going Vegan: Using AI Chatbots for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Protocol Searches" at the 2024 Joint Annual Meeting of the Southern and Mid-Atlanta Chapters of the Medical Library Association

Melissa Stevenson: received First-Timer Award from NASIG

Ariel Turner: published a chapter titled "Setting the Tone: Encouraging Boundaries for Better Workplace Outcomes in Academic Libraries" in Well-Being in the Library Workplace: A Handbook for Managers; presented "A Blueprint for New Library Leadership: Insights from Three Associate Deans" at the South Carolina Library Association

Elias Tzoc: published "Practical Considerations for Adopting Generative AI Tools in Academic libraries" in Journal of Library Administration; published "A Study of LLM-Powered Student Query Support" in ACM MexIHC Conference Proceedings; presented "Generative AI in Learning: Democratizing and Personalizing Access to Scholarly Information" and "Leadership at Academic Libraries: Strategies for Administrators from Underrepresented Groups" at the ACRL 2025 Conference; presented "Skilling-Up Your Teams for AI" at the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries; presented "A Blueprint for New Library Leadership: Insights from Three Associate Deans" and "Generative AI Tools for Libraries" at the South Carolina Library Association; presented "Trust, Transparency, and Accountability: Ensuring Responsible AI While Maintaining Democratic Values" at the Society for Ethics Across the Curriculum; presented "Empowering Education: Championing AI Awareness on Campus" at the 2024 Teaching and Learning with AI Conference

Chris Vidas: gave a workshop titled "Electronic Resources Management 101" and a presentation "Saving a Sinking Ship: Managing a Skeleton Crew in Acquisitions" at the 2025 PASCAL Member Conference

Chris Vinson: published "A Study of LLM-Powered Student Query Support" in ACM MexIHC Conference Proceedings

Yang Wu: presented "Introducing Co-DREAM OER: Innovative New OER Resources in Robotics and Modern Manufacturing" at the Northeast OER Summit; gave a lecture titled "Building Community Engagement" at ComSciCon 2025; presented "Building Job Satisfaction for All: How Libraries Can Improve Workplace Culture for Tomorrow" at the South Carolina Library Association Annual Conference; presented "CO-DREAM OER: Introducing Innovative New OER Resources in Robotics for Modern Manufacturing" at the Open Education Conference; gave a lecture titled "Leading the Charge" at the Association of Research Libraries IDEAL 2024 Conference

Redd receives Outstanding Library Support Staff Award from SCLA

Carl Redd, special projects archivist in Special Collections and Archives, received the Outstanding Library Support Staff Award from the South Carolina Library Association (SCLA).

The award recognizes a library support staff member for excellent performance in their field of expertise, demonstration of leadership, innovation in customer service or technical service, development of new programs or services, or advocacy initiatives. Redd was recognized, in part, for his role as archives specialist on the Black Heritage Trail Project, which was funded by a $3.4 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Led by Rhondda Thomas, the Calhoun Lemon Professor of Literature at Clemson, the project will feature walking trails that connect heritage sites in Seneca and Clemson with interactive signs, artwork and digital content that share the stories of local Black history.

"Carl is always willing to take on new projects and duties in the best interests of researchers and the institution, and he always excels in what he pursues," said Ariel Turner, associate dean for collections and discovery for Clemson Libraries. "He is a talented and motivated individual, and I am excited to witness his future contributions to South Carolina libraries and heritage institutions."

Redd has served in Special Collections and Archives since 2003. He identifies, analyzes, and indexes historical documents and arranges and processes archival collections, including writing collection descriptions for finding aids to help make items in the archives discoverable by users. He also assists researchers by answering reference questions and helping them locate materials in the collections, and he supervises the student assistants who work in Special Collections and Archives.

He graduated from Lander University in 2001.

Libraries launches leadership development program

Clemson Libraries has started a new Library Leadership Development Program (LLDP) for its faculty and staff. The 12-month program will give participants the opportunity to gain a pragmatic understanding of leadership, build inter-division relationships, learn directly from library leadership and embrace their own ability to lead within the Clemson community.

The first cohort of the program consists of seven faculty and staff:

- **Nicholas Baldwin**, library specialist in technology lending
- **Alexis Dale**, instruction projects manager
- **Ann Holderfield**, art and architecture librarian and director of the Gunnin Architecture Library
- **Christie Johnson**, e-resources and serials specialist
- **Jen Jones**, metadata specialist
- **Alydia Sims**, standards management and assessment manager
- **Tara Wood**, instruction and outreach archivist

The program is coordinated by Ariel Turner, associate dean for collections and discovery. Participants meet monthly to learn about topics related to leadership, specifically library leadership within higher education. The program runs from January to December.

Vinson selected for President's Leadership Institute

Chris Vinson, head of digital strategies for Clemson Libraries, has been selected for the 2025-2026 cohort of the President's Leadership Institute (PLI). Vinson was one of 25 faculty and staff from across the University selected to participate in the nine-month leadership development program.

Vinson, who has been with the Libraries since 2011, oversees the team responsible for all the technology that makes the Libraries run, from technical support to managing all the systems that help people find items in the collections to the physical hardware in the buildings. He also serves as special assistant to the associate dean of organizational performance and administration for the Libraries.

Prior to coming to Clemson, he worked as a systems librarian for the College of Charleston. A native of Spartanburg, Vinson earned his bachelor's in English from Winthrop University and a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of South Carolina.

PLI offers participants the opportunity to grow both personally and professionally while also learning about University administration and the impact Clemson has at the state, regional, national and international level.

Richbell completes inaugural Clemson Academy

Nick Richbell, head of Special Collections and Archives, has completed the Clemson Chair Academy. He was one of 18 department chairs across the University to complete the program in its inaugural year.

The Chair Academy is a leadership development program designed to cultivate leadership awareness, skills and styles for department chairs at any career stage. The cohort participated in monthly sessions, which each focused on different themes, from wellness to enrollment management. They also had a variety of speakers, such as deans and seasoned department chairs. University Historian Otis Pickett gave a lecture on University history, and President Emeritus Jim Barker also spoke to the group about his time as Clemson's president.

Richbell was the only chair of a non-academic department selected for the program.

Private **Support**

Friends of the Libraries

The Friends of the Libraries membership program offers the opportunity to support the Libraries while being part of a Clemson community that affects everyone. In the past year, Friends of the Libraries donations supported increasing access to electronic textbooks and classroom resources, procuring lendable lab equipment for students, making newly documented artifacts available online for scholars to research and funding student assistants who work throughout the Clemson Libraries.

Any donor who gives $100 or more per year to the Libraries is a member of Friends of the Libraries. To show our gratitude, our Friends of the Libraries members receive:

- Subscription to the Clemson Libraries' newsletter
- Friends of the Library membership courtesy card for borrowing and limited interlibrary loan privileges (available to alumni and SC residents)
- Discount at the Clemson University Press store
- Invitations to events led by Special Collections & Archives, Historic Properties, and the Libraries.

We would like to thank our Friends of the Libraries for their support this past year.

Friends of the Libraries Board of Directors

Wesley Watt '13, Chair (2024-25)
Dr. Betty Bagley '75
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Walter "Buddy" Warnock '76

Give Day 2024

Thank you to everyone who donated to Clemson Libraries during the 10th Annual Give Day! Clemson Libraries, the University Historian and Historic Properties received $14,531 from 78 donors, which will be used to support collections development and provide other resources that can benefit our students, faculty and staff in their research and scholarly pursuits.

10th ANNUAL Give Day 04.10.25

Gift to Libraries will help document history of ClemsonLIFE, neurodiversity

Clemson alumni Bob and Beth Shepard have made a significant gift that will bring together Clemson Libraries and ClemsonLIFE in several different ways.

The Shepards are giving more than $789,000 which will be used to establish a neurodiversity and Clemson LIFE collection in Special Collections and Archives and fund a ClemsonLIFE student assistant position in the Libraries.

ClemsonLIFE offers a collegiate experience that prepares students with intellectual disabilities for competitive employment and independent living through a combination of academic coursework and career exploration. Bob said he learned about the program through serving on the University's Board of Visitors when the program was established.

The majority of the money will fund the hiring of an archivist for the neurodiversity collection and help purchase items to start the collection. The search for the archivist is currently underway. Nick Richbell, head of Special Collections and Archives, says the collection will be one of the first of its kind in the country.

Richbell said the new collection will focus on documenting the history and current activities of the ClemsonLIFE program, as well as collecting books, small archives, oral histories and other items that will help document the history of neurodiversity on a national scale.

Another portion of the funding will pay for a student assistant position in the Libraries specifically for a ClemsonLIFE student. The gift will not only fund the students' salary but will also cover training for staff to learn how to work with and mentor students with differing needs.

The Shepard's gift has funded a position for ClemsonLIFE student Dan Doran, making him the first ClemsonLIFE student to work for the Libraries. A native of Newton, Massachusetts, Doran is a junior in the program. He works at the security desk in Cooper Library.

Doran is responsible for making sure people scan their IDs to enter the building and signing in visitors who do not have University ID cards. He also helps answer questions for visitors and periodically walks around the building to make sure furniture is in place and that there are no security issues.

The gift also provides $100,000 for the Brook T. Smith Launchpad, which is the University's hub for entrepreneurship. Located in downtown Clemson, the Launchpad provides educational, networking, and support opportunities for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members.

Bob and Beth Shepard, residents of Charleston, both graduated from Clemson in 1978.
Bob has spent more than 40 years in the environmental industry as a builder and operator of solid waste management operations. He is currently the owner of R.N. Shepard Investments LLC and vice president at GreenRock Strategies LLC, an environmental consulting firm. Bob has served on the Board of Directors of the National Sold Waste Management Association and is past chairman of the Clemson Board of Visitors.

Beth taught first grade for several years in Summerville before leaving the workforce to focus on raising their three sons — Neil, Travis, and Nicholas. Beth has always been active in the life of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charleston and has served in many roles including Chairman of the Diaconate.

Hunter family gives challenge gift to support library student assistants

Clemson alumni Jody '79 and Kathy '80 Hunter are challenging the Clemson family to make donations to support hiring student assistants to work for the Libraries. The Hunters have pledged to give up to $50,000 to match donations to Clemson Libraries student assistants fund. This means that people giving to the fund can double their impact up to a possible $100,000.
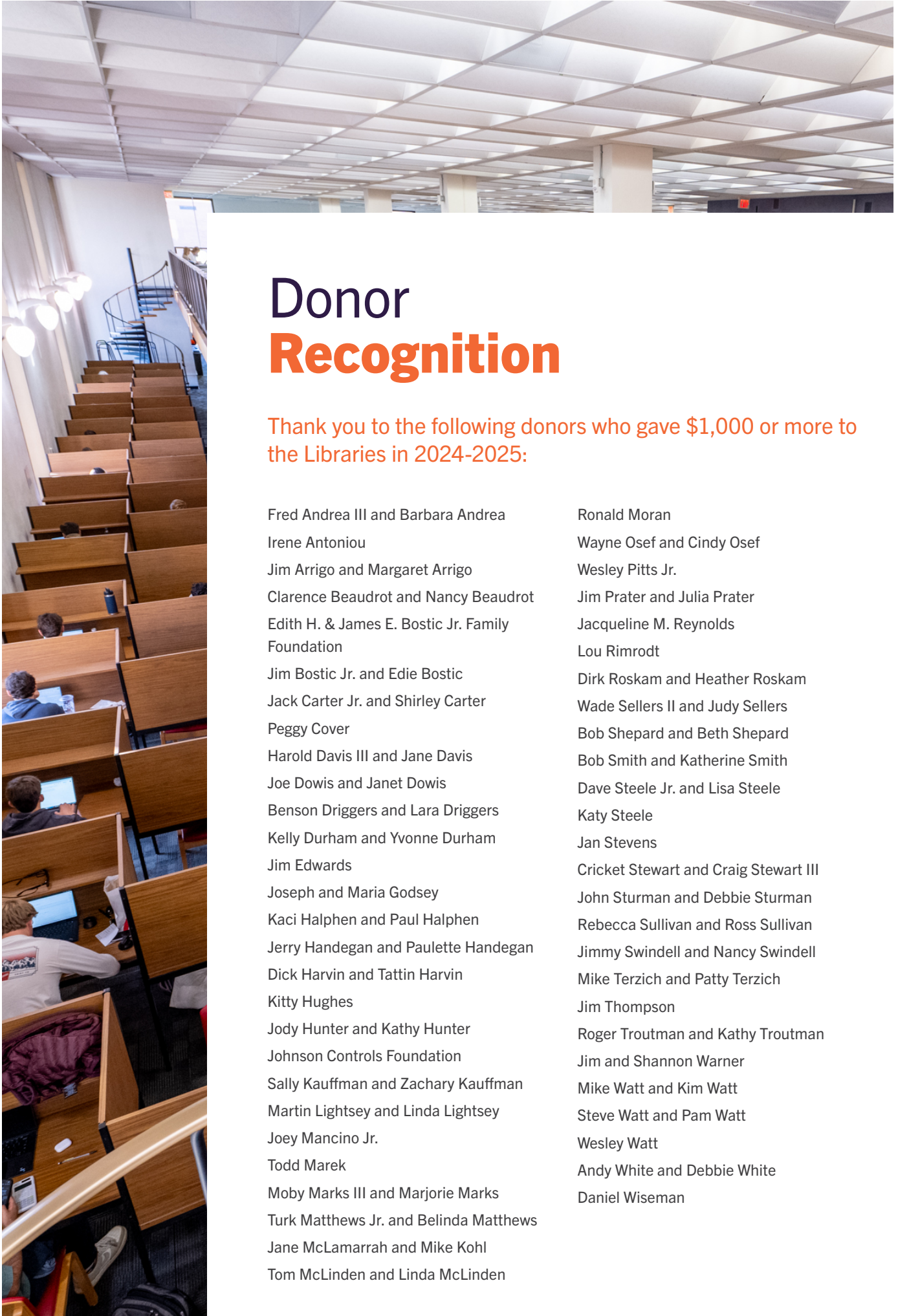
Clemson Libraries employs more than 100 student workers each year, making it one of the largest student employers on campus. Student assistants help with everything from checking out items to shelving books to marketing to data analysis to research assistance. One full student assistantship can be supported for one semester for $6,500.

The Hunters are inspired to support the student assistants fund in part by their daughter, Hall (Hunter) Baldwin '13, who worked in the Libraries during her time as a student at Clemson. As a student assistant, she gained invaluable knowledge and life lessons that helped shape her career path. Hall is now a regional branch manager for the Fairfax Country Public Library system in Virginia.

"From the time we were students, we have always been very dedicated and loyal to Clemson University because of the impact it had on our lives and the lives of our daughter," said Jody. "We know the impact that the Libraries had not only on our family, but also on all students, faculty and staff. It's a great resource for everyone, an entity that touches everyone, so we wanted to support that."

The Hunters met as students at Clemson. Jody graduated with a degree in administrative management in 1979, and Kathy earned an English degree in 1980 and a computer science degree in 1983. Jody spent his career with Michelin Tire Corporation, and Kathy worked for 10 years at Clemson in the Department of Computing and Information Technology. She later taught computing classes and then became a certified personal trainer, fitness instructor and yoga instructor.

The Hunters have been active supporters of Clemson ever since their student days. Kathy has been a long-standing member of the Friends of the Libraries Board of Directors and is past chair of the board. She has also served as chair of the Women's Alumni Council, president of the Clemson Alumni Association and member of the IPTAY Board of Directors. She currently serves on the Board of Visitors.

Donor
Recognition

Thank you to the following donors who gave $1,000 or more to the Libraries in 2024-2025:

Fred Andrea III and Barbara Andrea

Irene Antoniou

Jim Arrigo and Margaret Arrigo

Clarence Beaudrot and Nancy Beaudrot

Edith H. & James E. Bostic Jr. Family Foundation

Jim Bostic Jr. and Edie Bostic

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