





2015

Annual Report | Special Collections &
University Archives

UMass Amherst Libraries



New Collections

Pied Beauty

Glory be to God for dappled things—
For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced—fold, fallow, and plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him.

— *Gerard Manley Hopkins (1877)*

Gloria Xifaras Clark's contributions to the long arc of social justice have included time spent in the civil rights movement during Mississippi Freedom Summer, in the antiwar movement of the late 1960s, and in community activism in New Bedford from the 1980s on.



LIBERTAD PARA LOS 15 DE PUERTO RICO

José Soler

An educator, labor activist, Marxist-Leninist, member of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and Puerto Rican nationalist, José Soler has been involved in justice struggles since the early 1970s.

Frank “Parky” Grace

Founder of the New Bedford chapter of the Black Panther Party in 1970, Grace spent eleven years of a life sentence in prison for a murder he did not commit. His letters are a profound record of the impact of imprisonment and systemic injustice.

ARRESTADOS
30
DE AGOSTO



Brother David Steindl-Rast

Since emigrating to the United States in 1952, and joining the Benedictine order, Brother David has become a key figure in Buddhist-Christian dialogue and a proponent of building bridges between religious traditions.

Gifford & Miriam Towle

From 1939 to 1973, Gifford and Mariam Towle served as missionaries in Maharashtra State in India, using the mission farm to demonstrate crop diversity and livestock improvement; creating cooperatives to enable poor farmers to use appropriate modern tools and machinery; and introducing modern agricultural techniques.



Katya Taylor

A writer, poet, and educator, Katya Taylor has deep roots in the struggle for social justice. A member of the Liberation News Service, she was deeply involved in the movements for civil rights, peace, women's liberation, and gay liberation.





MAKE YOUR SUMMER A DELIGHT

Cummington School of the Arts

Between 1923 and 1993 the Cummington School of the Arts was a creative hub in the heart of the Berkshires. Aimed at emerging artists, it attracted luminaries such as Paul Hindemith, Marianne Moore, Archibald Macleish, Diane Arbus, Willem de Kooning, and Helen Frankenthaler.

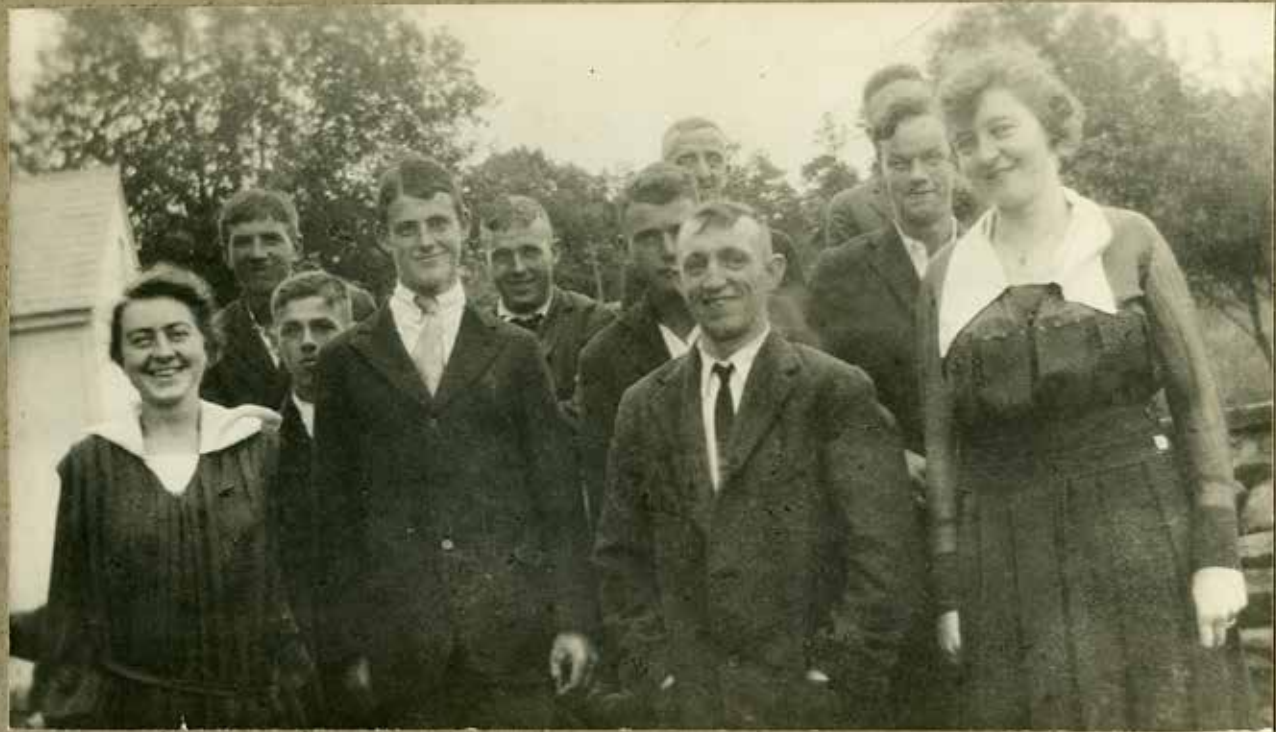


Even as her hundredth year neared,
Phyllis Rodin stood fast in the struggle for
peace, feminism, and social
justice around the globe.

Two collections arrived at SCUA in 2015 brimming with poster art: **Mark Brinsfield's** German political posters from the 1980s and **Sue Thrasher's** social movement posters from the 1970s.

Documenting the spiritual dimensions of social change, we received the papers of **Ethel Killgrove**, who served as a missionary to Ethiopia and Yemen from 1948 to 1951, and materials from the **Abode of the Message**, the headquarters for the Sufi Order International since 1975.





Our efforts to document movements for the civil rights of people with disabilities continued with collections from **Tom Behrendt**, an attorney with the National Association for Rights Protection and Advocacy, and **Cynthia “Kalissa” Miller**, an activist and psychiatric survivor.

The activist, historian, and filmmaker **Laurie Block** and her production company, **Straight Ahead Pictures**, donated a rich collection relating to the history of disability, including rare film footage, audio recordings, and ephemera.



An organization of scientists and engineers forged in the crucible of 1960s radicalism, **Science for the People** applied a leftist analysis to the problems of science and technology, including militarization and corporatization, sociobiology, the environment, and the rationalization of racism, sexism, and other forms of inequality.

An influential historian of technology, science, and education, **David Noble** repeatedly encountered the limits of academic freedom through his provocative work.





The daughter of an official in the Cigar Makers' Union, **Mary Frances Healy** served as a nurse with the National Catholic War Council during the waning days of the First World War. Her photo album is a rare relic.

An historian at Temple University, **Waldo Heinrich** specialized in 20th-century Pacific relations, but his papers include material from his father, a college professor and First World War fighter pilot, as well as his grandfather, a Baptist missionary in India.





New Victoria Publishers

Founded as a women printers' collective in Vermont in 1975, the New Victoria Press was a pioneering publisher of lesbian and feminist literature.

The first African American librarian hired by the New York Public Library, **Catherine A. Latimer** (1896-1948) was also an astute book collector. When her son, Dario Bosley, donated Latimer's letters from W.E.B. Du Bois, he arranged for his stepmother, Ruby

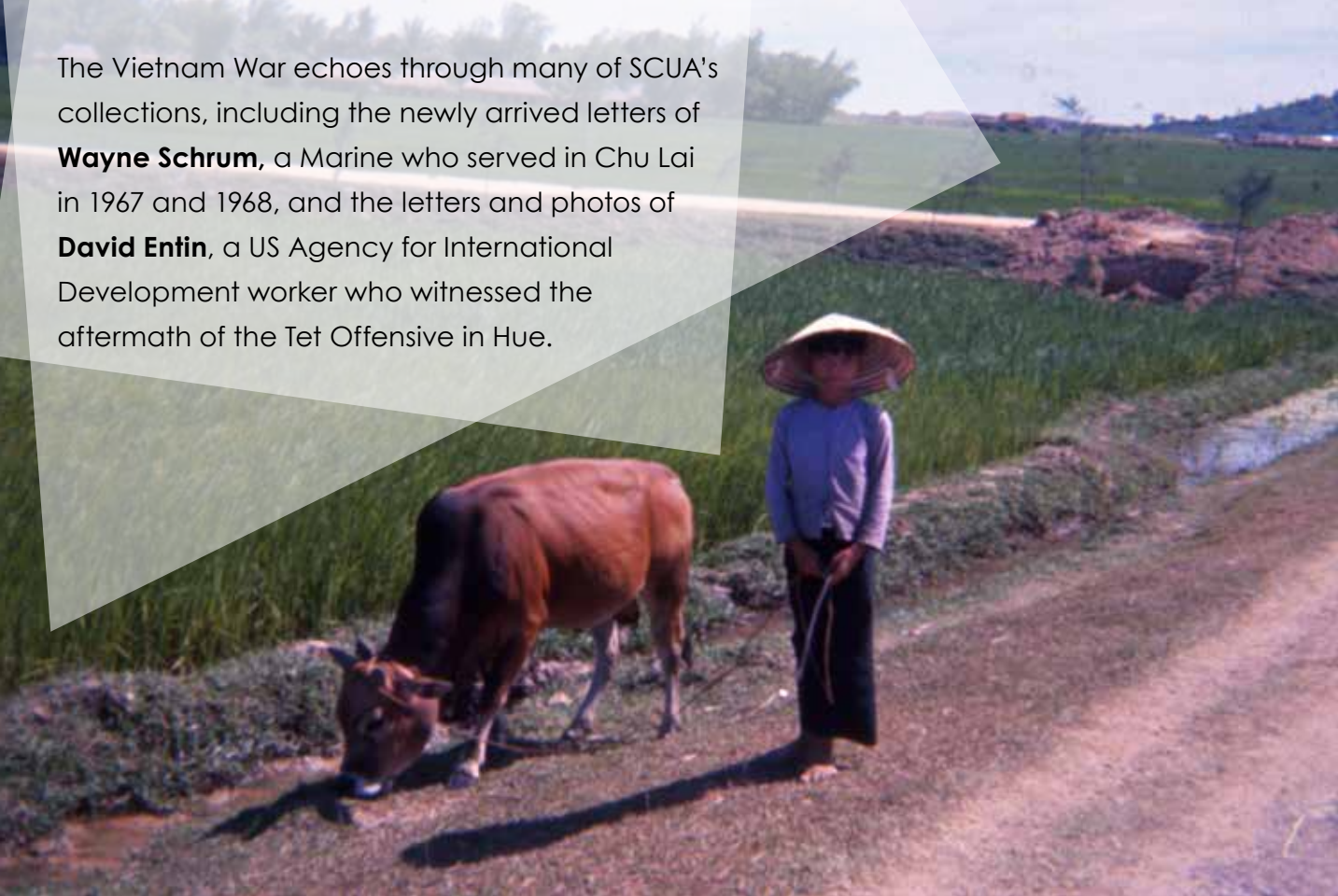
Latimer, to donate Catherine's personal library, including autographed classics of the Harlem Renaissance by Du Bois, Claude McKay, James Weldon Johnson, and Langston Hughes.



This Book Belongs to
Catherine A. Latimer

Very Sincerely
Claude McKay

The Vietnam War echoes through many of SCUA's collections, including the newly arrived letters of **Wayne Schrum**, a Marine who served in Chu Lai in 1967 and 1968, and the letters and photos of **David Entin**, a US Agency for International Development worker who witnessed the aftermath of the Tet Offensive in Hue.



Barely out of high school when he enlisted in the army in 1944, **Herman B. Nash** was trained in the Japanese language and assigned for duty as an intelligence officer in Japan during the turbulent post-war period, 1946-47. An outspoken advocate for civil rights and organized labor, he later worked in education and on the railroads. His daughter Alice is a professor of history at UMass Amherst.

71

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL, FAR EAST
COURT ROOM SEATING DIAGRAM
 (READING FROM BALCONY TO STAGE)

| DEFENDANTS | | JUDGES |
|--------------|------------|-------------------------|
| BACK ROW | FRONT ROW | |
| 1. ITAGAKI | 1. KIMURA | PAL (INDIA) |
| 2. SUZUKI | 2. KIDO | ROLING (NETHERLANDS) |
| 3. SHIRATORI | 3. KAYA | McDOUGALL (CANADA) |
| 4. SHIMADA | 4. HOSHINO | PATRICK (GREAT BRITAIN) |
| 5. SATO | | HIGGINS (U. S. A.) |
| | 1. MUTO | WEBB (AUSTRALIA) |
| | 2. ARAKI | MEI (CHINA) |
| | 3. UMEZU | ZARYANOV (U. S. S. R.) |
| | 4. OKA | BERNARD (FRANCE) |
| | 5. TOJO | |
| | 1. MINAMI | |

22

H.B. Nash

Was Anne Truitt Tokyo

3/46

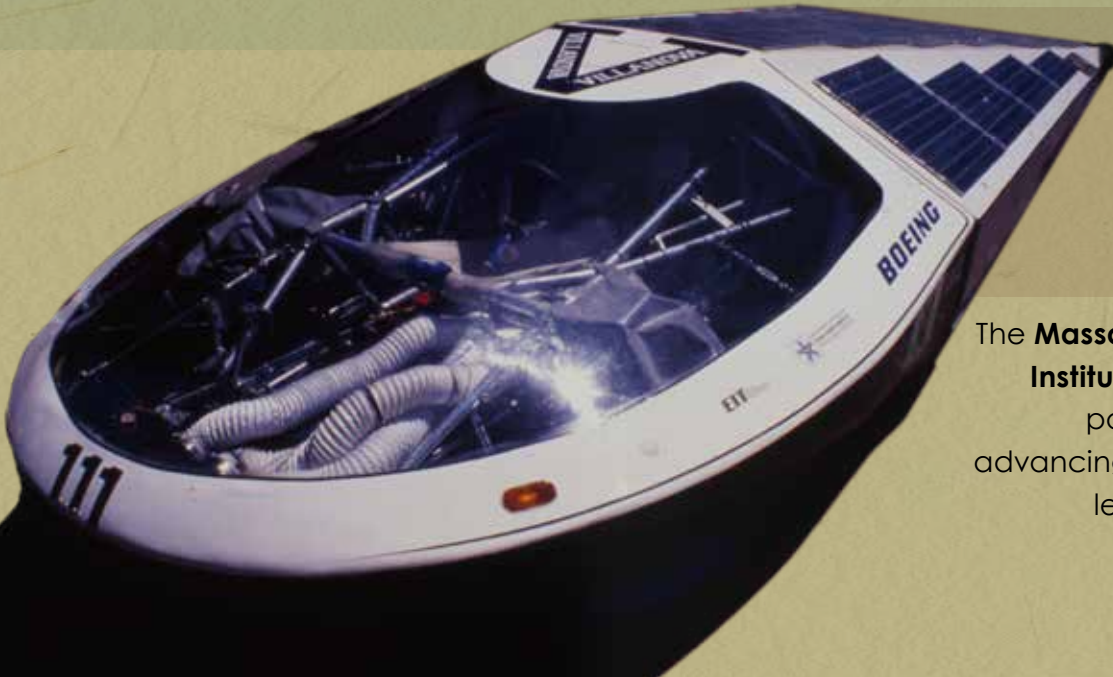
WE WENTWORTH UHR.

Wentworth Uhr, 10 A. G. H., being duly sworn,

rank and unit, OX.19079, Major Clive Wentworth

at Changi and remained there for three and a
 on the start was very bad and we were very

SCUA's collections related to alternative energy and sustainability continued to grow with the arrival of new materials from the **UMass Amherst Wind Power Center** and from the **Tour de Sol**, the nation's oldest solar power car demonstration and road race.



The **Massachusetts Legal Reform Institute** is a poverty law and policy center devoted to advancing social justice through legal action, education, and advocacy.

Raised in the town of Enfield, Mass., **Bob Wilder**, became a noted interpreter of the experience of the lost Quabbin region.

A 1937 graduate of Mass. State College, **Charles Eshbach** married Sibyl Hartley shortly before being deployed with the Army Air Corps during the Second World War. Their letters vividly document a budding relationship playing out against a wartime backdrop.

The war is also the backdrop for **Lillian and Joseph Politella**, whose papers contain letters to Lillian from her brothers serving in the service, correspondence with their mentor at UMass, Ray Ethan Torrey, and Joseph's academic writings on mysticism and religion.

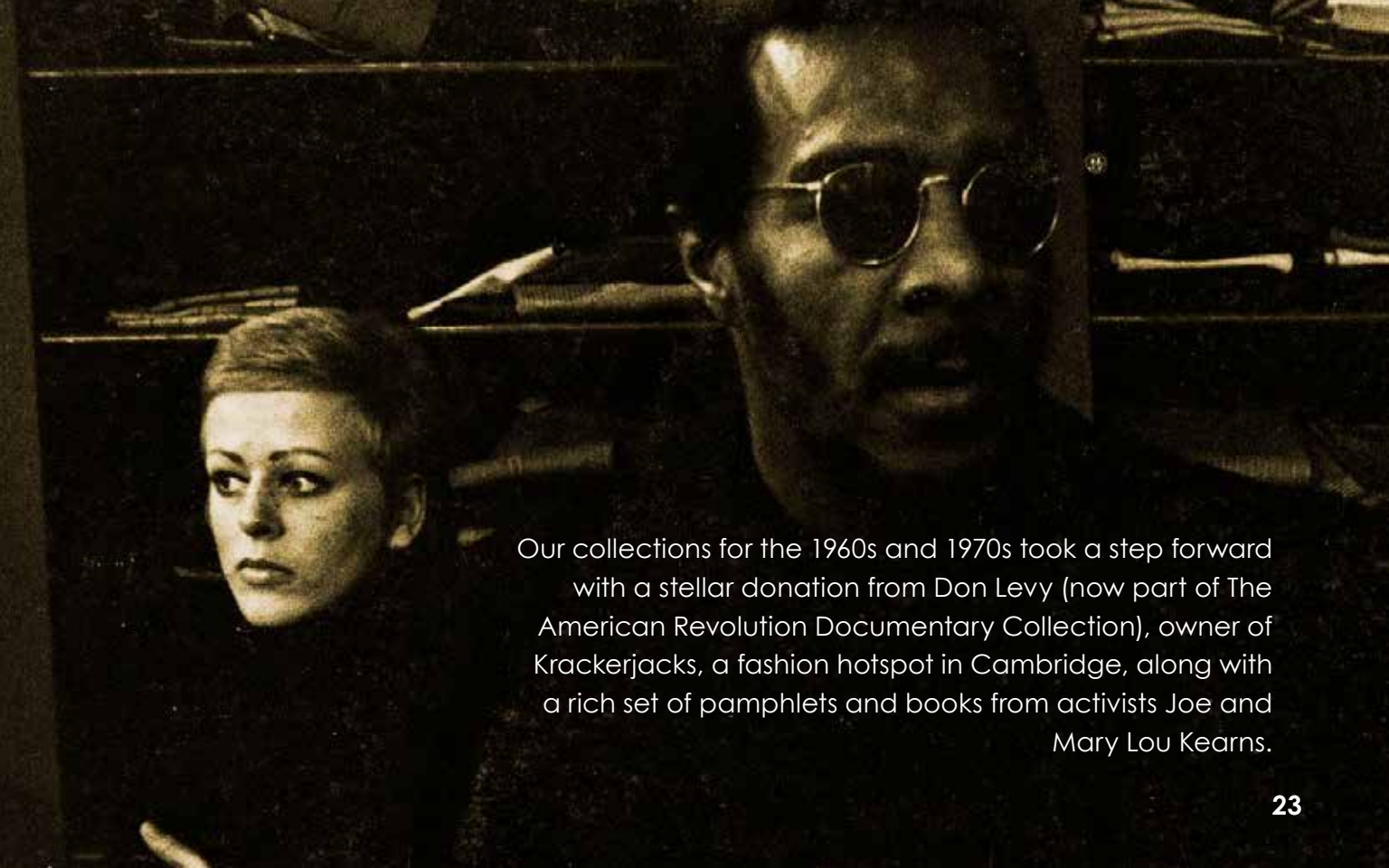


Eric Bascom's jazz collection includes hundreds of 78 rpm recordings from the 1940s and 1950s, including a number with beautifully illustrated covers.

As head of the Labor Extension Program at UMass Lowell, **Charley Richardson** worked for more than thirty years as a labor educator and activist, concerned with workplace safety, the impact of technology, downsizing, deregulation, and globalization.



- POET & PEASANT OVERTURE
- SALUT A PESTH
- ANITRA'S DANCE
- DANZA DELLE ORE
- LE SECRET
- POUPEE VALSANTÉ
- RAYMOND OVERTURE
- LIGHT CAVALRY OVERTURE



Our collections for the 1960s and 1970s took a step forward with a stellar donation from Don Levy (now part of The American Revolution Documentary Collection), owner of Krackerjacks, a fashion hotspot in Cambridge, along with a rich set of pamphlets and books from activists Joe and Mary Lou Kearns.

University Collections





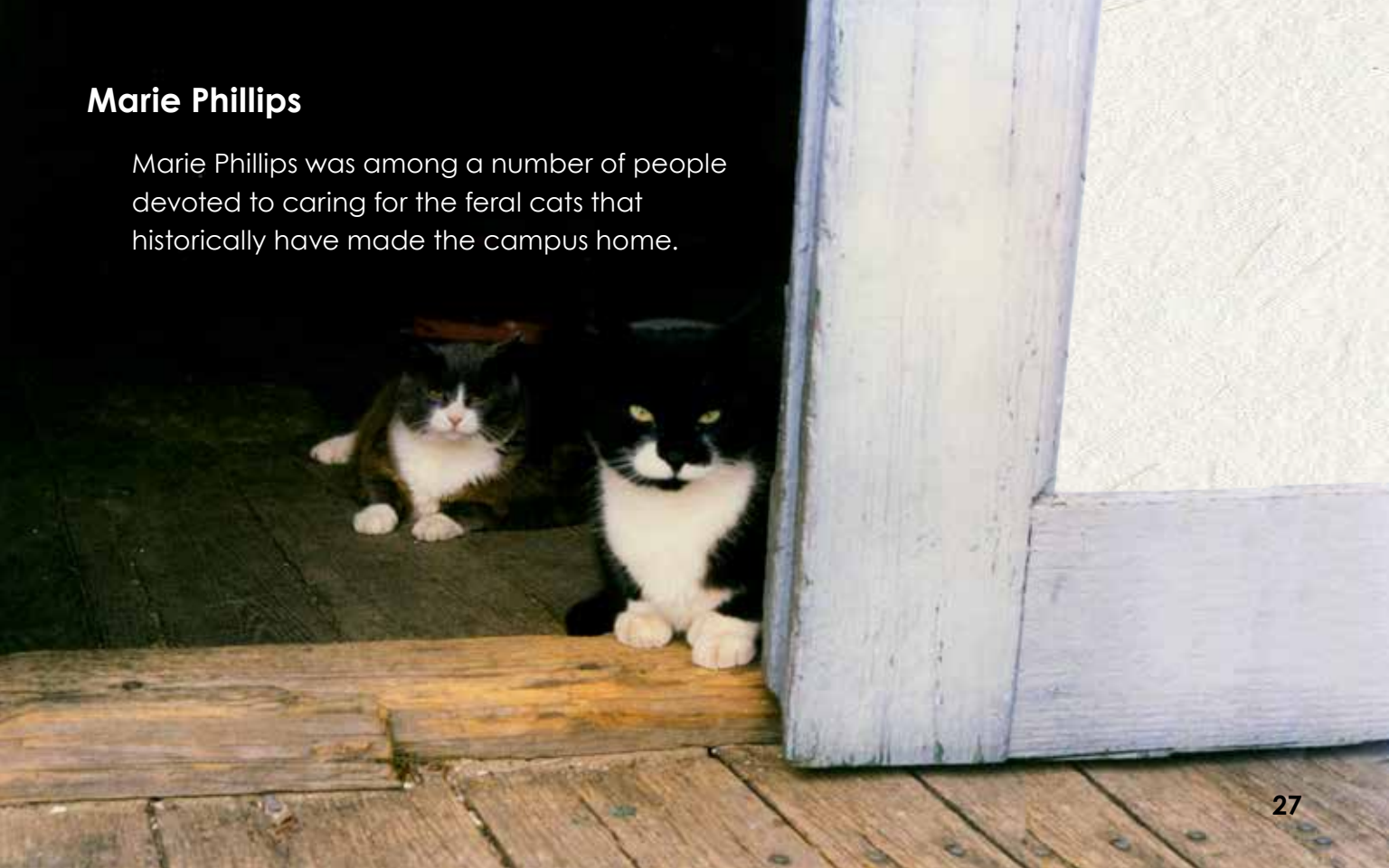
John Jenkins was brought to UMass in 1964 to create a proper marching band program and quickly elevated it into the forefront of the collegiate ranks. An innovator in drill design, he is remembered for providing freedom for the band to express social and political messages in their routines. After passing the baton to George Parks, Jenkins helped build the university's Lively Arts program and Multiband Pops Concert.

A distinguished member of the faculty in Sport Management and a major figure in academic sport law, **Glenn M. Wong** was also a long-time faculty athletics representative at UMass Amherst and served as the university's interim Athletic Director during the expansive years of the 1990s.

As the memory of UMass, SCUA remains busy documenting our university: Maurianne Adams, the Bachelors Degree with Individual Concentration program, the Lively Arts, Hillel, and the office of the President of the UMass system all contributed mightily.

Marie Phillips

Marie Phillips was among a number of people devoted to caring for the feral cats that historically have made the campus home.



A photograph of two young women with short brown hair, wearing maroon tank tops. They are standing outdoors, possibly in a wooded area, with their hands behind their heads and looking upwards. The image has a slightly grainy, vintage feel. A white rectangular box with a thin black border is positioned in the lower-left corner, containing the word 'Initiatives' in a bold, dark red serif font.

Initiatives

All digital, much of the time

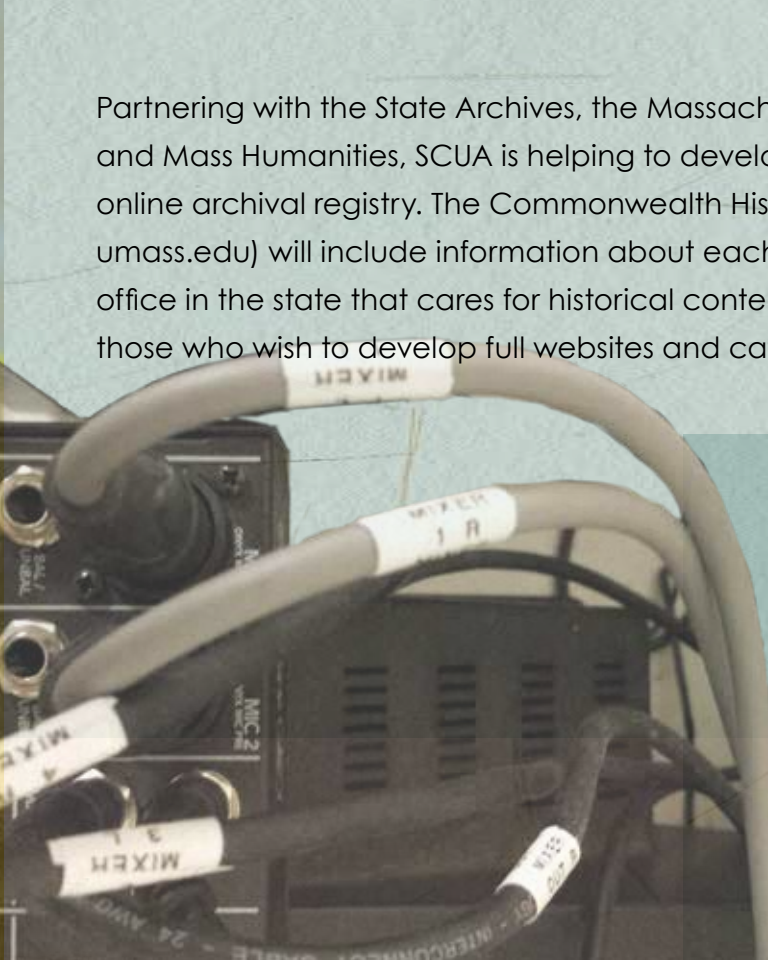
Interrupting our usual high jinks, SCUA staff went all out in the digital realm in 2015, the future of our archival world. This year we passed two major milestones: 100 collections are now represented in Credo, and 150,000 items.

Our blazing scanners generated more than 10,000 images from our photographic collections alone, representing more than a century of work from a half dozen artists. The gracious support of Professor Robert Potash enabled us to digitize more than 120 hours of audio recordings with Argentine political and military leaders of the 1960s and 1970s, which joined dozens of hours of oral histories with nurses, faculty, alumni, and community members. As the year closed, we set our digital sights on the papers of Benjamin Smith Lyman, a geologist and traveler in Meiji-era Japan.

Support from the McCormack family and our colleagues in the UMass Amherst Department of Sport Management has enabled us to begin digitization of 50,000 items from the papers of **Mark H. McCormack**, a visionary in the field of sport and entertainment marketing.

A trio of SCUA staff members taught a total of five courses through the Simmons College Graduate School, including the introduction to archives, archival access and use, digital libraries, XML, and archival management. We also advised half a dozen UMass graduate students in three departments.

Professionally, we're committed: SCUA staff presented at conferences in history, popular culture, libraries, and archives and sat on committees for the New England Archivists (NEA), ACRL New England, the ICA Experts Group on Archival Description (EGAD), and the Technical Subcommittee for Encoded Archival Context (EAC), as well as the State Historic Records Advisory Board (SHRAB). A book on the history of pie in New England also appeared, based largely on our collections of historic cookbooks.



Partnering with the State Archives, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, and Mass Humanities, SCUA is helping to develop the state's first comprehensive online archival registry. The Commonwealth Historical Collaborative (chc.library.umass.edu) will include information about each historical society, library, or local office in the state that cares for historical content, and it will offer an opportunity for those who wish to develop full websites and catalogs for their holdings.

SCUA, the Arts Extension Service, and the National Endowment for the Arts conspired to develop an online portal (scua.library.umass.edu/nea/) for the dozens of NEA publications .

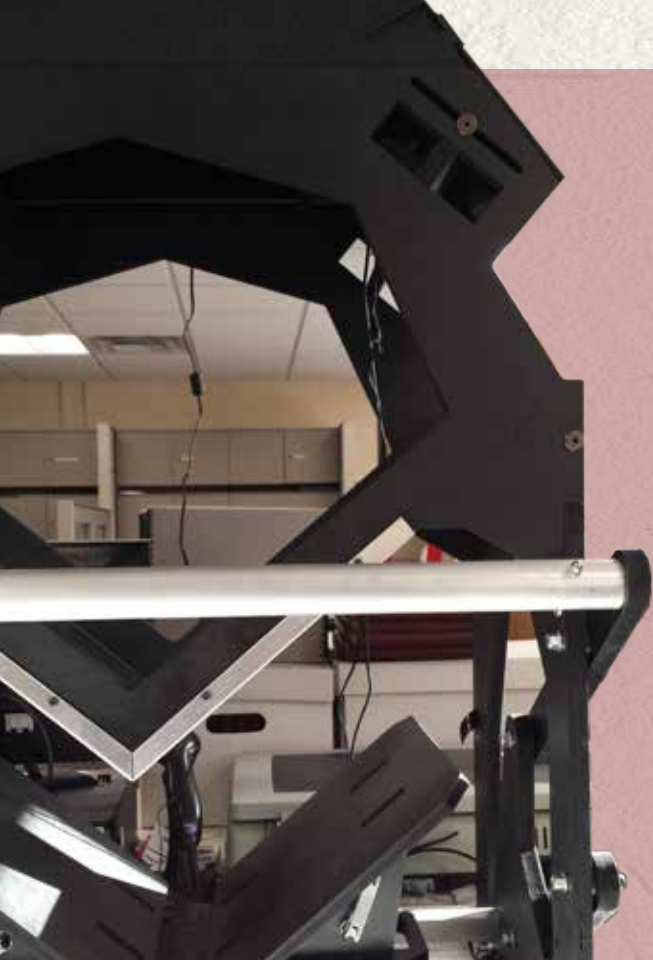


SCUA welcomed two new permanent staff members in 2015.

Caroline White (left) is a graduate of Princeton and Simmons who worked previously as a senior editor at Penguin, at Mount Holyoke College, and as our Kenneth R. Feinberg Archivist.

A graduate of Brown, Harvard, and Simmons, **Blake Spitz** (right) has gained experience at Amherst and Mount Holyoke Colleges, not to mention the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

Good fortune and grateful can coexist.



Digital work in SCUA took a small step forward with the arrival of “Darth,” a book scanner that we will use heavily. Darth’s acquisition was made possible through the generosity of Arthur Mange.

Lorraine James, the Libraries’ expert in book conservation, has been sharing her skills with SCUA by building custom enclosures for rare and fragile materials, from 19th century diaries and account books to photo albums, and most recently, daguerreotypes.

Programs etc.



Celebrating the arrival of the Boston Jazz Society archives and papers of pianist Borah Bergman, was party to twin jazz receptions: the first with the Friends of the UMass Amherst Libraries included special guest Aureldon Henderson, past-President of the Society, and the second at Sculler's Jazz Club in Boston. Each featured a performance by UMass Amherst musicians under the direction of Jeffrey W. Holmes.

Commemorating the centennial of the Great War, longtime friend of SCUA Ed Klekowski spoke on the "Archaeology of the First World War: Exploring the Trenches Today."

Exhibits this year included *Jazz is Alive!* and *Yankee Yarns*, the latter showcasing photography from Alton H. Blackington (1893-1963), a writer, photojournalist, and radio personality. The exhibit was curated by graduate student David Bendiksen as part of his project for the 2014 ETHIR Fellowship.

21st Annual W.E.B. Du Bois Colloquium

Our annual colloquium came of age in 2015 with our first three-time speaker: the distinguished historian and two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize, David Levering Lewis.

SCUA, the Libraries, and the Du Bois Center also sponsored a performance in Springfield of "W.E.B. Du Bois: A Man for All Times," featuring Brian Richardson and the Pulse Ensemble Theater.

ETHIR Fellows: Delene Chase White and Chelsea Sams



Four recipients of our **Du Bois Fellowships** gave talks in 2015:

- **Brandon Byrd**: "The Problem of Haiti as it Stands Today"
- **Don Geesling**: "Songs of Black Folk: The Musical Imagination of W.E.B. Du Bois, 1922-1942"
- **Nneka Dennie**: "Black Feminism and the Evolution of Du Boisian Thought, 1903-1920"
- **Crystal Webster**: "The Transfiguring Soul of Childhood: Du Bois and the Social, Political, and Cultural Role of Black Children"

Two 2015 Friends of the Library Undergraduate Research Awards went to:

- First prize: **Joshua Castillo** '15 for "A Life Well Lived" (on Hyla Watters)
- Honorable mention: **Joy Silvey** '15 for "Queering the Institution: A Look at LGBT Life at the University in the 1970s and 80s"

One Kathy & Lorrey Bianchi Community Scholarship Award recipient:

Stephen Taewoo Kang

Thanks



Donors and friends

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Boston Jazz Society
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Marijuana Policy Project
Massachusetts Law Reform
Institute
National Endowment for the
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National Assembly of State Arts
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A Network for Grateful Living
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Support SCUA

SCUA depends upon the kindness of strangers—and the kindness of friends as well. Thanks to years of steadfast support, SCUA has become well-known for its collections in the history of social change, New England, innovation and entrepreneurship, and UMass Amherst, and your support has been crucial to helping us to fulfill our mission of making these resources freely available to all who can use them.

If you know of collections of letters, books, photographs, or archives that might fit well in SCUA, please contact our curators. Supporting history is invaluable.

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