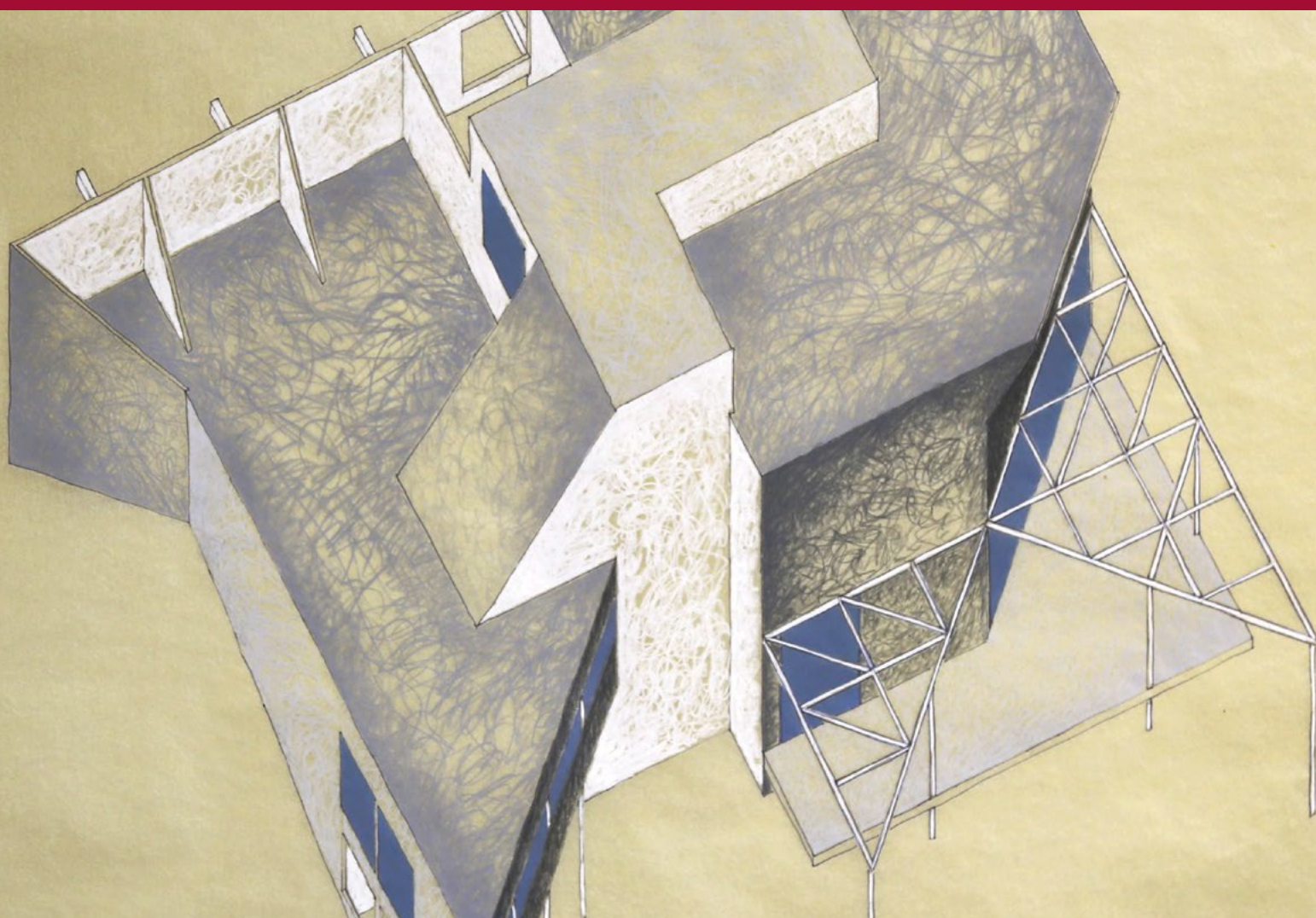


The UNIVERSITY of
OKLAHOMA LIBRARIES
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

SPRING 2018



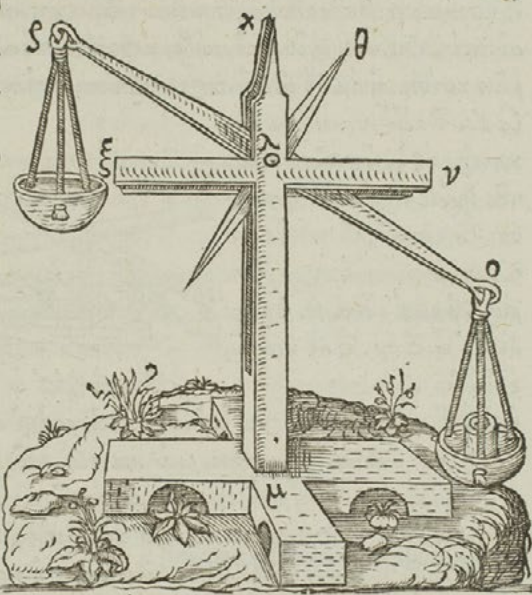
SOONER HORIZON
VOLUME 6, NUMBER 1

ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΑ.

6

κείμνον, ζυγανθιον ποιη. πλθον γδ γίνεται τῶ ημίσεος τῶ ζυγοῦ
 τῶ κἀτω μέρους, ἢ ὡς ἡ κἀνωτος διαμερῆ, ὡς τε οὐκ ἀναφέρει. χρυ-
 φότερον γδ τῶ ἐπιτημηθμόν. ἔστω ζυγὸν τῶ ν, ἐφ' οὗ ν ξ τῶ ὀρ-
 θόν, κἀνωτος τῶ

ἡ κ λ μ, δι-
 χα δὴ διαμερ-
 ται τὸν ν ξ.
 ἔπιτηθέντος τῶ
 βάρους ἔπι τῶ
 ν, ἔστω τῶ μὲν
 ν οὗ τῶ ο, τῶ
 ξ, οὗ τῶ ρ. ἢ
 δὲ κ λ οὗ τῶ
 λ θ, ὡς τε μεί-
 ζόν ἔστι τῶ κ
 ο, τῶ λ ρ, τῶ
 θ κ λ. χῶ α-
 φαιρεθέντος ἔν
 τῶ βάρους, ἀ-
 νάσκη μὲν γδ. ἔπικειται γδ ὡς περ βάρους ἢ ὑποροχῆ ἢ τῶ ημί-
 σεος τῶ ἐν ὧ τῶ κ.



4. Τῶ μοχλοῦ δυνάμεις αἴτιον.
 Δια τῶ κινουσι μεγάλα βάρη μικρὰ δυνάμεις τῶ μοχλῶ.
 ὡς περ ἐλέγθη καὶ κατ' ἀρχὴν παρελαβάνοντες βάρους ἔπι
 τῶ μοχλοῦ; ῥάδιον τῶ ἔλαττον ἔστι κινήσασ βάρους. ἔλαττον
 δὲ ἔστιν ἀνά τῶ μοχλοῦ. ἢ ὅτι αἴτιον ἔστιν ὁ μοχλός, ζυγὸν κἀ-
 τωθεν ἔστιν τῶ ἀσπίον, καὶ εἰς ἀνίκα διηρηθμόν; τῶ γδ ὑπομό-
 χλιόν ἔστι τῶ ἀσπίον. μὲν γδ ἀμφω ταῦτα, ὡς περ τῶ κέντρον,
 B ij

CONTENTS

- 2 [Letter from the Dean](#)
- 3 [Chinese Literature Translation Archive](#)
- 5 [Introducing Bridget Burke](#)
- 7 [Western History Collections Fellowship](#)
- 8 [Recent Acquisitions](#)
- 10 [Digital Public Library of America](#)
- 11 [Paying It Forward](#)
- 12 [A History of Collecting](#)
- 13 [American School Archive](#)

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA LIBRARIES Special Collections

- The Bizzell Bible Collection
- The Chinese Literature Translation Archive
- The Daniel and Ruth Boorstin Collection
- The Harry W. Bass Business History Collection
- The History of Science Collections
- The John and Mary Nichols Rare Books and Special Collections
- The Western History Collections

ON THE COVER Henderson House. Arn Henderson Collection. ABOVE [ARISTOTLE]. *Aristotelis Mechanica*. Paris, Andreas Wechel, 1566. These two works are among the recent additions to OU Libraries special collections.

Letter from the Dean

We began publishing *Sooner Horizons* as a way to shine a light on the significant special collections held by the University of Oklahoma Libraries. Since that first issue in the summer of 2013, we initiated a public exhibition program that was launched with *Galileo's World*, bringing our History of Science Collections to the forefront of the university. Renovation of the 5th floor in Bizzell not only created public gallery space while augmenting collection storage, it created a destination. Now when students, scholars and visitors arrive at the pinnacle of the Bizzell library, they are greeted with an atmosphere befitting a top-tier research library. The significance and cultural value of these collections become self-evident, and the tools to enable scholarship – exhibits, digitization, programming and course integration – are available to support the creation of experiences.



Exhilarating new additions are a healthy sign of evolving collections and archives. Since *Galileo's World*, we have had the pleasure of welcoming curator Jonathan Stalling and creating the Chinese Literature Translation Archive, introducing a new facet to our special collections that explores the art of the very human process of literary translation. Our most recent acquisition to this collection is featured inside, a substantial archive of materials from Nobel Prize winning author, Mo Yan, which perhaps best exemplifies the kismet of having this collection here at OU.

On the theme of new additions, we are excited to welcome Bridget Burke, associate dean and director of special collections, into the University Libraries. Bridget joined us in January with an extensive background managing unique collections, and she is profiled inside. Also in this issue, we are delighted to announce the creation of the American School Archive, acquired through a partnership with the Christopher C. Gibbs College of Architecture. The archive features a collection of drawings, paintings, photographs, and documents by the architects who established themselves and their American style to become icons of modern architecture. These items by Frank Lloyd Wright, Bruce Goff, Herb Green and others will permit a better and deeper understanding of the American architectural philosophy and legacy of these renowned architects.

This year we are celebrating the 90th anniversary of the creation of our Western History Collections. We began a promising campus lecture series last fall, made possible

through generous philanthropic support. This summer we are launching a donor endowed fellowship program to further open the WHC collections for scholarship and to better communicate its significance as one of the nation's most important collections of Western Americana.

That brings me to a key tenet of the contemporary research library – accessibility. As we continue to grow our special collections and invest in the preservation and presentation of artifacts for teaching and learning, we have begun ensuring that we expand our special collections to support data preservation and digital access. We are proud to announce that Oklahoma has joined the Digital Public Library of America. Through a statewide partnership, four significant state institutions have banded together to represent our collective works in this national online database to enable access to scholars around the world.

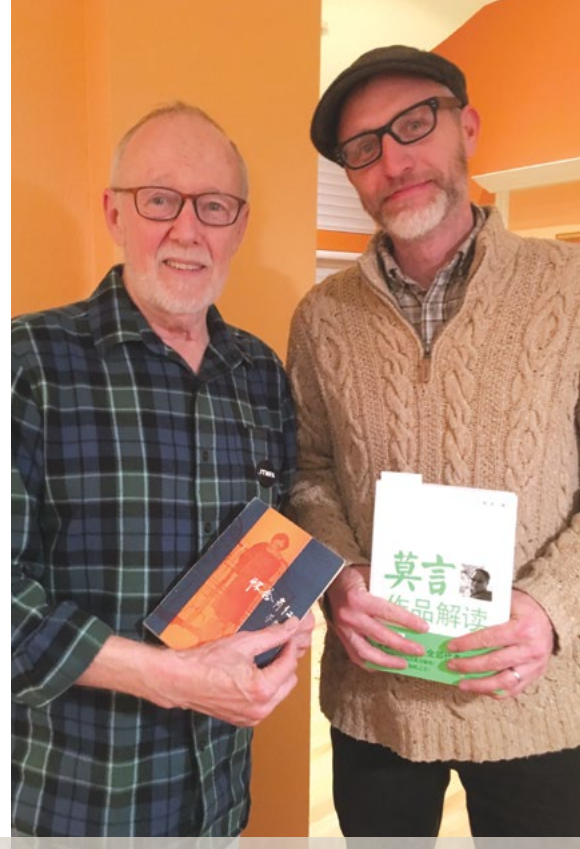
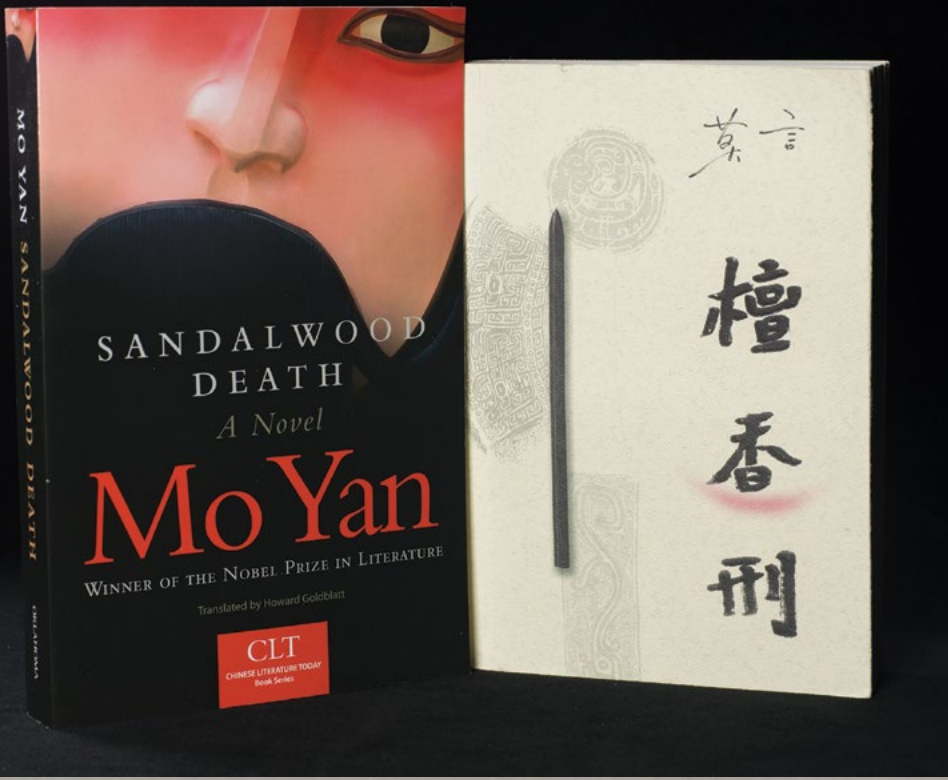
As with any great story, my time at OU Libraries is nearing its conclusion. I will be retiring this summer and leaving the library in the excellent care of Interim Dean of Libraries, Carl Grant. I am confident that Carl, together with my senior leadership team and the very talented, dedicated staff here will continue to make OU Libraries the intellectual commons of the university. I cannot adequately articulate what it has meant to be a part of this organization's transformation, nor can I take credit for bringing the vision to life. The realization of the dreams we proposed in 2012 could only transpire through the combination of President Boren's leadership coupled with your generous support. It has been exceedingly heartwarming and humbling to work with you – individuals with a spirit of generosity and a passion for helping students achieve their goals, a passion for learning, innovation, and creating knowledge. You have entrusted us to make a difference. So much of the lifeblood that makes our special collections extraordinary and our libraries distinct flows from your support and generosity.

I thank you for making a difference and ensuring that I am leaving OU Libraries on a path of continued excellence so that my successor can say on his or her first day, "What possibilities!"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Luce". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "R" and "L".

Rick Luce
Dean, University Libraries
Professor and Peggy V. Helmerich Chair
Associate Vice President for Research, Norman



Chinese Literature Translation Archive acquires rare collection of Nobel Prize Winning Author Mo Yan

This spring, the Chinese Literature Translation Archive is undergoing renovations to make room for the Arthur Waley Collection and new acquisitions in the Howard Goldblatt Collection.

OU recently acquired the personal library, nearly 4,000 books and other documents, of Arthur Waley. Waley is arguably the most influential early 20th century translator of Chinese and Japanese literature into English. This year, OU also acquired a substantial new archive of materials by Nobel laureate Mo Yan, including over 100 hand-written letters and other important materials. Mo Yan, the only Chinese citizen to win the Nobel Prize, has a long history with Howard Goldblatt and the University of Oklahoma.

Howard Goldblatt, who has translated nearly 60 Chinese novels into English, first encountered Mo Yan's work in 1987 while living in Manchuria. Goldblatt tracked Mo Yan down to meet the author, and went on to translate all of Mo Yan's work into English. Mo Yan started to

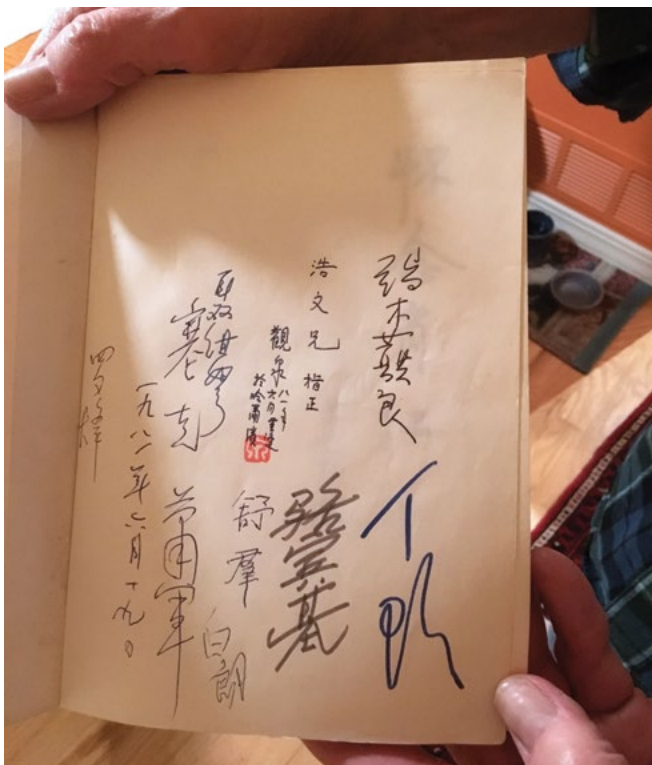
What better home for Mo Yan and Howard Goldblatt's archives than right here at OU.

gain international recognition in the 1990s and became a finalist for OU's Neustadt Prize in 1998. He later became the first winner of OU's Newman Prize for Chinese Literature in 2009. The OU connection has been discussed in the *New York Times*, the *Chronical of Higher Education*, and beyond as an important factor leading up to his 2012 Nobel Prize in Literature. What better home for Mo Yan and Howard Goldblatt's archives than right here at OU.

In addition, the recent Goldblatt acquisitions includes many hand-written letters, hanging scrolls of calligraphy by Xiao Jun (萧军), and books written by other well-known authors in the Northeast Chinese Authors Group (东北作家群). While Goldblatt may be best known for



LEFT PAGE Books by Mo Yan; Howard Goldblatt and Jonathan Stalling. RIGHT PAGE Howard Goldblatt TOP RIGHT Poets from the US-China Poetry Dialog in the Zarrow Family Faculty & Graduate Student Center, Bizzell Memorial Library, October 2017.



his work with Mo Yan, many scholars in China and the West believe that his most important contributions to Chinese literature lie in his scholarship on Xiao Hong, and his deep connections to the Northeast Chinese Author Group, connections that come to life through this new collection.

To better preserve these fragile, beautiful artifacts and scholarly resources, the newly renovated space will feature new built-in shelving and display cases among other renovations and improvements. The renovation is expected to be complete April 2018.



This past year, the CLTA has hosted seven visiting scholars from China who specialize in Chinese literature translation and comparative literature.

The CLTA hosted the first annual US-China Poetry Dialog, which brings Chinese and American Poets together to live, talk, read, and travel together for a week of events. The poets gave talks in the Bizzell Memorial Library and Fred Jones Museum of Art in Norman, as well as the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, and Dairy Hollow Writers Colony in Arkansas. The dialog is a collaboration of OU and Beijing University and is supported by the Mark Allen Everett Fund and Poetry Series and the Chinese Poetry Association.



Introducing Bridget Burke

The University of Oklahoma Libraries welcomes Bridget Burke as associate dean for special collections. Bridget is responsible for the leadership and strategic vision for OU Libraries' seven distinct special collections. Please read on for an interview with Bridget as she steps into this new role.

What brought you to OU?

In March 2017, I was part of a team gathered by Dean Luce, and the Western History Collections Faculty Director, David Wrobel, to assess the Western History Collections. Then, and on subsequent trips to Norman, I was impressed with the level of collegiality and the commitment to collaboration in the OU Libraries. I was smitten by Dean Luce's vision to promote special collections as a distinctive area of excellence, and by Provost Kyle Harper's description of special collections as a research asset to the University. When the libraries reached out to encourage me to apply, it was impossible to say no. My career has ranged across public and private collections, in academic and museum

Bridget Burke's qualifications and the breadth and depth of her experience as a special collections expert and manager are a rare combination. We are excited to have her join the OU family.

– Rick Luce, Dean of OU Libraries

settings, and I've worked with collections across the social sciences, arts, and humanities. I'm pleased to be able to bring that breadth of experience to the diverse collections at the University of Oklahoma.

What challenges do you expect in this new role?

My portfolio is broad, and my responsibilities include oversight of special collections held in multiple curatorial units: western history, history of science, Chinese literature



PAGE 5: Associate dean for special collections Bridget Burke reviewing OU yearbooks with a Western History Collections student employee.
PAGE 6: Bridget Burke in the WHC Reading Room. **PAGE 7:** WHC graduate students reviewing collections materials.

My commitment is that our first priority will always be to determine “does this advance the experience for our users? Does it allow us to build programs and connections while maintaining the excellence of the research experience and acting on the collections in ways that extend their life?”

translation, and others – so in a fundamental way my role is to build communication, and foster a culture where we support and celebrate each other’s work, and rally around shared goals and needs while valuing what is distinctive and unique – “special” – in each unit. Certainly my work with the WHC assessment team identified both a wealth of opportunities and a set of specific concerns regarding

how to strengthen and promote that resource, which truly is of local, regional, and national significance.

The libraries will reach some decision points in the coming year about space planning, facilities, and staffing models; my commitment is that our first priority will always be to determine “does this advance the experience for our users? Does it allow us to build programs and connections while maintaining the excellence of the research experience and acting on the collections in ways that extend their life?”

What are you most looking forward to, or most enjoying about the position?

Learning the collections, which is not possible from a distance – so I land on people’s doorsteps and show up at events. So far, I’ve enjoyed sitting in on an instruction session which drew on material from across the collections to engage honors students in questions about the roots of democracy. I was wowed by a lecture on historical star atlases – maps of the sky – delivered at the Sam Noble Museum by HOS Curator Kerry Magruder and graduate student Brent Purkapple. The standing-room-only event was preceded by the audience convening outside, necks

The global sweep and impact of OU's special collections is astounding.

craned upwards, to watch the International Space Station pass through the Oklahoma sky.

Meeting with the Dale Society board just before my arrival was a wonderful introduction to friends and supporters of the Western History Collections. WHC is launching a new fellowship program and seeking funds to preserve significant Native American radio programming – I'm working with Lina Ortega on that. And I've had the pleasure of meeting four of the visiting scholars in the Chinese Literature Translation Archive – emerging and senior scholars for whom these collections form the basis of their work. The global sweep and impact of OU's special collections is astounding.

What goals do you have for the special collections?

I've spent these first weeks meeting with special collections faculty and staff one-on-one to hear their stories. In every case I'm asking, "how would you build a sense of community across all special collections in the libraries?" "In what areas of the operation are there opportunities to act collectively to build capacity and quality?" So much activity is underway to further the integration of our rare and unique primary sources into the curricular and co-curricular life of campus. I believe there is untapped potential for development and grant-writing efforts that embed special collections in community and curriculum.

Another goal will be to deploy technology—not only the growth of digital collections drawn from special collections, but the behind-the-scenes technologies that allow us to track moving collections and better serve researchers. Building a body of shared stories is a critical first step to demonstrate the impact of OU's distinctive collections on the lives of students, citizens and scholars.



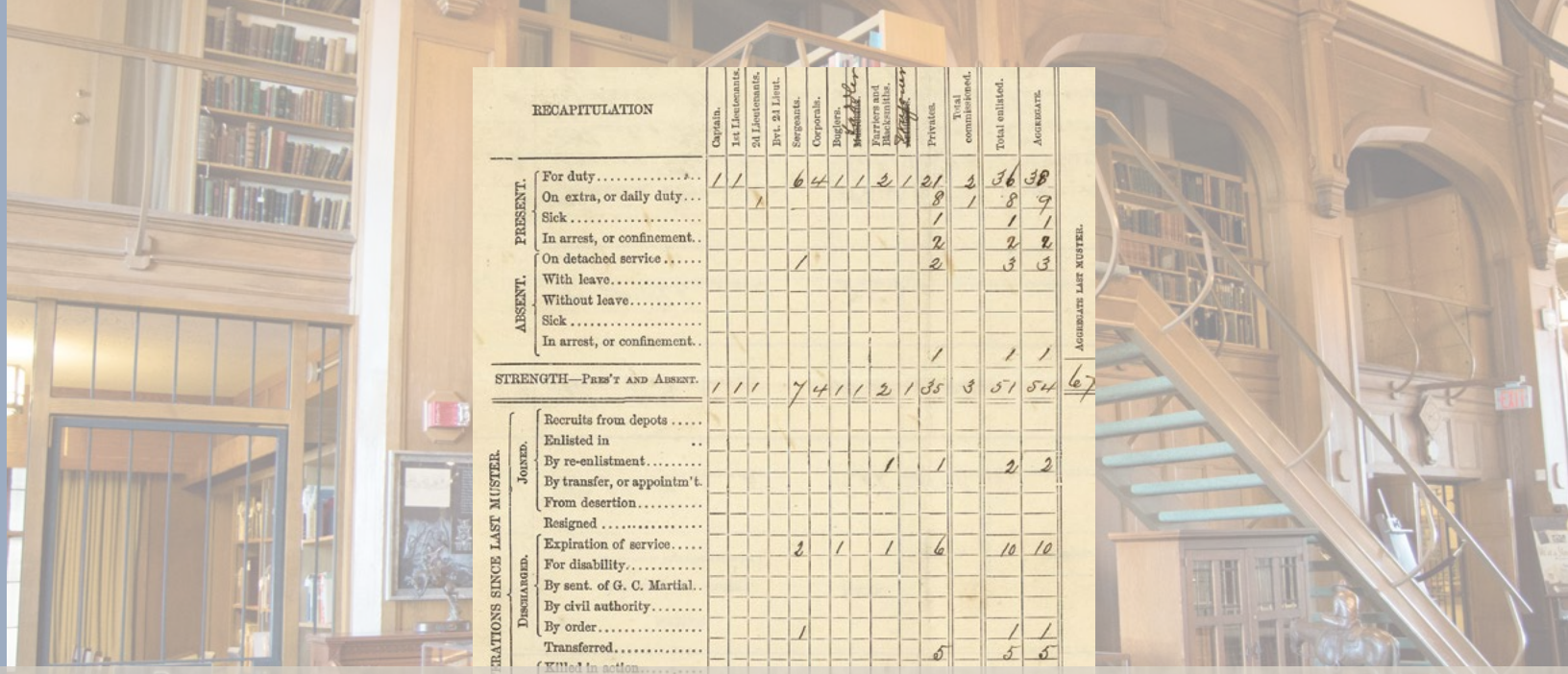
Western History Collections Fellowship Programs

Fellowship opportunities are now available for researchers to visit and use the resources at the Western History Collections. Thanks to the generous support of two Dale Society members, two fellowships for the WHC have recently been created, the Jack Haley Fellowship and the Masterson Fellowship.

The Jack Haley Fellowship, endowed by Fred and Patricia Schonwald of Oklahoma City, provides opportunities for history graduate students at OU to spend time in the collections during the summer. The fellows will evenly divide their time between using WHC materials to advance their dissertation or thesis research, while working for the WHC on projects of interest to them to develop valuable skills.

The Masterson Fellowship, endowed by Conrad and Ellen Masterson of Cee Vee, Texas, provides opportunities for researchers from outside OU to research in the WHC for up to three months. The fellowship is open to graduate students, faculty, or independent scholars to consult the collections on topics related to the American West, with a preference for researchers who are interested in ranching history. It is hoped that these fellows will spread the word to their colleagues about the unique and diverse resources within the collections and at OU on the history of the American West.

We look forward to working with the fellows and anticipate that we will learn as much from them as they do from us. Both fellowship programs aim to increase the national and international reputation of the collections as a premier repository for the study of the American West and Native American culture and history. We thank the Schonwalds and the Mastersons for their investment in the WHC and the OU Libraries.



Recent Acquisitions: Western History Collections

Counting the 10th Cavalry: 1872 Muster Roll

The Western History Collections recently acquired a piece of military history that sheds light on an important group of individuals that shaped the U.S. Army’s presence in Oklahoma to the present day. This item, a muster roll for the 10th Cavalry Troop H in 1872, helps us better understand who these soldiers were, where they came from, and what they did while serving at Fort Sill.

The 10th Cavalry, an African-American regiment, originally mustered in at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1866 and 1867. Following a short assignment at Fort Riley, Kansas, the regiment moved south to Indian Territory. The 10th started building Fort Sill in 1869, with permanent buildings completed in 1870. This muster roll covers April 30, 1872, to June 30, 1872, while the 10th was still at Fort Sill. Regimental headquarters moved to Fort Gibson in early June 1872, so this roll covers that transition period.

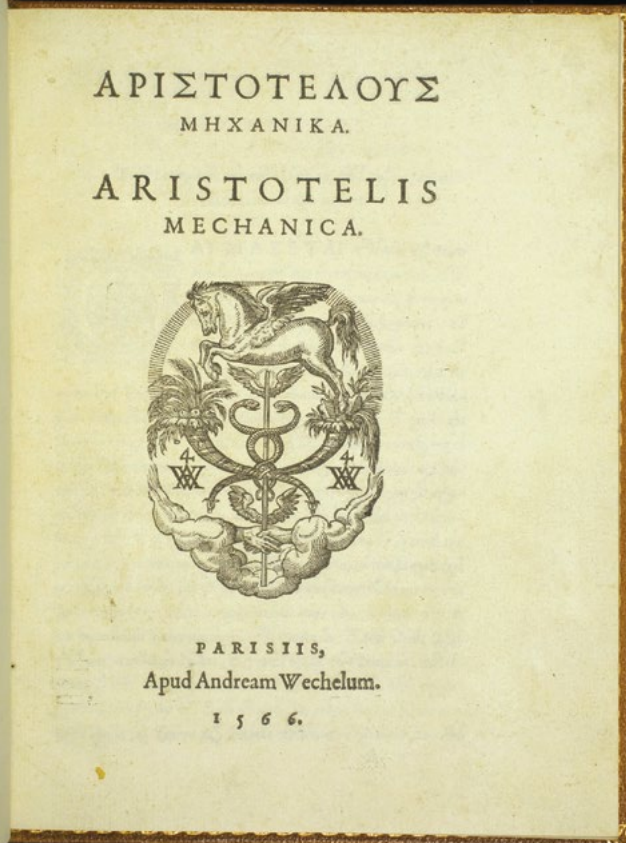
The soldiers listed on this roll signed up for five-year enlistments between July 1867 and late 1869. Several men were nearing the end of their enlistment term, and two men had re-enlisted. Most early recruits were from Memphis and Louisville, but many later recruits were from Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Cincinnati. Notes on the roll include information about promotions, daily duty roles, apprehension of deserters, and those in confinement. Detailed financial records indicate monies owed the soldiers and monies the soldiers owed the

government for items such as clothing and tobacco. Most soldiers made an X as their mark to sign for their pay.

Muster rolls tracked detailed information about individual soldiers and the unit as a whole. The reverse of the 1872 muster roll provides a numerical summary of the regiment. Some details include how many men served at each rank, how many were present or absent, and the strength of service. Alterations to the regiment since the last muster roll are also noted.

The service of African-American soldiers, also called Buffalo Soldiers, is well-documented. However, having such detailed information about individual soldiers and officers provides a more in-depth understanding of the people in the troop and the duties performed while serving at Fort Sill. Resources such as this muster roll can be used by a variety of scholars for multiple purposes, including genealogy, military history, state and local history, and regional history. The amount of detail muster rolls include also allow for different types of scholarship, including economic analysis and geospatial information systems (GIS) analysis.

Continued acquisition of important pieces like this muster roll will help us serve our broad user community and support the varied research interests they hold. Items such as this also remind us of the diversity of Oklahoma’s settlers, service members and citizens.



[ARISTOTLE]. Αριστοτέλους Μηχανικά. Aristotelis Mechanica. Paris, Andreas Wechel, 1566.

Recent Acquisitions: History of Science Collections

Aristotle, *Mechanics* (1566), in Greek

The *Galileo's World* exhibition transitioned into a “reprise” mode nearly a year ago, yet recent acquisitions are still being added to the *Galileo's World* digital library. One is the *Mechanics*, a work by an anonymous ancient author which was attributed to Aristotle until modern times.

During the century before Galileo, the *Mechanics* was the starting point for research in the problem of motion and the design of complex machines. Its mathematical approach commended it to Cardinal Bessarion, who brought a Greek manuscript of the Aristotelian corpus, including the *Mechanics*, to Italy in the 15th century as part of the Florentine Neoplatonic revival. Printed in Latin, Italian and other vernacular editions, the *Mechanics* became closely scrutinized by humanist scholars, scientist-engineers, and military institutions alike.

This edition is the *Mechanics* printed in Greek, published in Paris in 1566. Printed by the publisher of the works of Peter Ramus, it was likely related to lectures by Ramus on the *Mechanics* in 1565. The Greek text had

appeared once before: nearly seventy years earlier, in 1497, an edition of the *Mechanics* based upon Bessarion’s manuscript was published in the Aldine edition of Aristotle, which the History of Science Collections already holds. The edition recently acquired is the first separately printed edition in Greek, and the first illustrated edition.

Galileo’s early essay in mechanics which led eventually, through many revisions, to his new physics, was stimulated by his close study of the *Mechanics*. In the *Galileo's World* exhibition, a Latin edition of the *Mechanics* was placed on display in the New Physics gallery immediately alongside Galileo’s similar early essay. The recently-acquired edition and its relation to Galileo have yet to receive notable attention by scholars.

The European Cultural Heritage Online (ECHO) digital library, offers seven later editions of the *Mechanics*. Now, through OU Libraries’ *Galileo's World* digital library, this interesting yet overlooked edition will become openly available to scholars around the world.



OU Libraries joins the Digital Public Library of America

The state of Oklahoma has joined a prestigious group of institutions that provide access to their digital collections through one portal, the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). The Oklahoma Hub of DPLA represents a collaboration between OU, OSU, the Oklahoma Historical Society and Oklahoma Department of Libraries. Together, these collections offer unique new resources, particularly in the areas of Native American history and culture, environmental and agricultural science, and the lives and experiences of generations of Oklahomans.

Before the DPLA existed, thousands of digital collections were available to the public through the Web, but they existed in silos with no way to search multiple collections at once. To help break down the silos, DPLA developed a distribution system that allows one to search thousands of digital collections and millions of items through a single access point, or portal. By partnering with cultural heritage institutions, archives, and libraries throughout the United States, DPLA now provides access to more than 18 million items consisting of digitized photographs, manuscripts, correspondence, government records, rare books, maps, film, and more. And while DPLA had become the nation's largest online library, it was missing content from the great state of Oklahoma.

In fall 2015, 24 individuals from 16 institutions gathered at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries to discuss steps for contributing digital content to DPLA. After the meeting, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma

State University determined they had the resources and institutional backing to develop a statewide Service Hub for Oklahoma. The University of Oklahoma Libraries took the lead by building the technical infrastructure to allow DPLA to point to each item in Oklahoma's digital collections, while Oklahoma State University reviewed the collections' descriptive records to ensure the items would be processed correctly.

Currently, Oklahoma's Service Hub, OKHub for short, provides access to more than 100,000 items belonging to the Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma.

The University of Oklahoma's contribution to OKHub includes the Duke Collection of American Indian Oral History, the Indian Pioneer Papers oral history collection, and the John and Mary Nichols Collection consisting of watercolor drawings by Joseph Clayton Clark from the book *Illustrations to Dickens*.

View the collections at link.ou.edu/dpla

TOP LEFT Haredale, Mr. Geoffrey of "The Warren," Nichols Collection TOP RIGHT Jackson, Mr. Michael, Nichols Collection



Walter Murphy and his grandson Mark Murphy (third and fourth from left) with Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education student scholarship recipients at the college's 2014 scholarship luncheon.

Paying it Forward

Walter Murphy has a lot of kind things to say about a lot of people whose paths have crossed his. He credits the Lord and good instructors for creating the opportunities for him to succeed.

"One of my greatest wishes in life would be to go back and thank all of the good instructors who helped me along the way," he says.

What few OU students may realize, however, is just how much Mr. Murphy has created opportunities for their success.

He says, simply, "I believe it's a good thing to help others. It's hard to figure out what you want to do in life. If young people will work hard and do the best they can, people are watching."

Mr. Murphy's latest gift to OU will support library exhibitions in the exhibition hall on the 5th floor of the Bizzell Memorial Library. It joins the many other scholarships and funds Mr. Murphy supports to enable student success.

"I wanted to help where need is critical. I saw a need in education. It's not getting the financial support it should

from legislators, and this was an opportunity to help," he says.

Mr. Murphy received his Bachelors from OU in 1955 and a Masters in library science in 1959. His first library job was cataloging the personal library of former OU Regent Walker D. Grisso. From that first step, he went on to be a public library director, part-time instructor, and was frequently published. His well-rounded career includes service in the Army and success in business, which he credits as heavily influenced by his time at OU, including meeting his wife, Mary Murphy née Rule. "The Lord put me in touch with some brilliant people," he says.

While students on campus, Walter worked and studied primarily on the south campus, while Mary was on the north campus. She worked as telephone operator and after a few connected calls, Walter and Mary connected in person for a first date at the Union.

We are all shaped by our experiences and those we encounter along the way. Mr. Murphy has shown the impact of paying kindness forward which has touched the lives of thousands of students who have gained opportunities from his generosity and support.

In 2016, the Western History Collections was pleased to accept a large donation from Jim and Lynn Howard of Ponca City, Oklahoma. The Howards generously donated almost 700 volumes, mostly relating to Oklahoma and the history of the American West. Donations enable us to fill in gaps in our holdings and to make more materials accessible to researchers. We spoke with Jim about his collecting and how he hopes his collection will support the scholarship available at the WHC.



A History of Collecting

Living in Ponca City, I've always been aware of the rich, robust history here – the six resettled Native American tribes who have made this area home, the Land Run which opened Northern Oklahoma to settlers moving west, the “fabulous empire” of the colorful and innovative 101 Ranch and the massive fortunes and lavish lifestyles created from the discovery of oil on these same lands – captured my curiosity and sparked my imagination.

Collecting books on the American West became a passion of mine while I was in high school in Ponca City in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Three first edition books about North Central Oklahoma were my earliest acquisitions, all while I was in high school. They remain some of my most valued. They are:

Fabulous Empire by Fred Gipson was Zack Miller's memoir of the 101 Ranch. Only in later years did I come to suspect some exaggeration among Zack's tales.

Wah' Kon-Tah, the story of the Osage resettlement to Oklahoma, by John Joseph Matthews, OU graduate and Rhodes Scholar.

Madness in the Heart by Edward Donahoe, describing the Roaring '20s in Ponca City.

I have been collecting books for over 50 years from all genres – among them almost 3,000 books on Oklahoma and Western history, as well as books on Native American and Western art. Much of what I have collected include somewhat unusual, limited editions and feature illustrations or works of art. Most were published in the early 20th century about Oklahoma politics and history.

The Western History Collections and OU Press have done a great job preserving the history of the American West. I hope this collection is helpful to people that look at the American West not just as it is today, but as it has developed.

Residential:
Extravert



The Creation of the American School Archive

The Creation of the American School Archive

The OU Libraries is excited to announce the creation of the American School Archive within our Western History Collections. This archive will ensure the incredible drawings, paintings, and documents donated to OU will be preserved and accessible. Please read on for an interview with Luca Guido, OU Christopher C. Gibbs College of Architecture associate professor and curator of the upcoming American School exhibition.

What about the collection brought you here to OU?

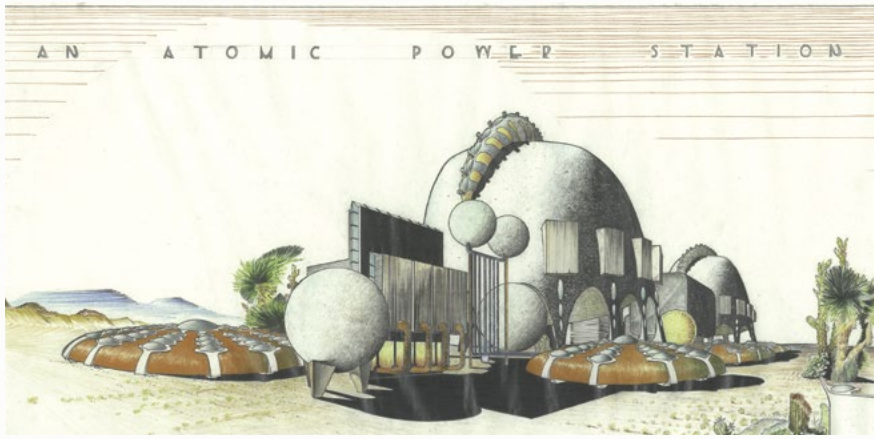
In fall 2016, I served as visiting professor and Bruce Goff Chair of Creative Architecture. During that period, I developed the initial concept for a research project about the history of the school of architecture at OU. Luckily, Dean Hans Butzer had the same interests. He had been studying Bruce Goff's legacy and meeting with alumni. He wanted someone to support this research effort and to help spread the history of the college. Because my expertise is on American architecture, I was appointed to lead this research at the beginning of the 2017-2018 academic year. I began my research in Chicago at the Art Institute, where the Bruce Goff Archive is located.

This research is significant because, at the end of the 1940s, Bruce Goff moved to Norman and revolutionized architectural pedagogy. He promoted creative freedom and began teaching organic architecture, an architectural philosophy developed by Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright, both considered fathers of contemporary American

architecture. At that time, architecture schools in the US followed curricula rigidly inspired by either the French Beaux Arts or German Bauhaus models. Whereas Goff emphasized creative freedom, the Beaux Arts programs encouraged the copying of centuries-old precedents and Bauhaus-inspired programs taught modernism, or the so called "International Style." For this reason, we refer to the school of architecture at OU under Goff's leadership as the "American School." Despite their status as important historical documents, these materials have been little known until now. My appointment as a visiting professor has been extended, allowing me to study the history of the OU architecture program, and to analyze its experimental pedagogy, the students' drawings, and the built work of Goff and his pupils.

What do you think is the most interesting or most significant component to the American School Archive?

The archive consists of multiple media: drawings, papers, photographs, slides and more. It includes a series of beautiful blue diazo prints by Frank Lloyd Wright, Bruce Goff and Herb Greene; a huge collection of old glass transparencies and colored slides; and interesting films that we are in the process of digitizing. Among all of these materials, I believe that the drawings realized by Goff's students during the 1950s and '60s are unique for their quality and creativity, especially considering students' work in other schools of architecture in the US at the same time. It is important to protect and preserve these drawings for future generations of students and scholars. Additionally, the Orville S. Witt Collection, currently



LEFT PAGE Residential: Extrovert, Donal K Olsen Collection. **TOP LEFT Atomic Power Station,** College of Architecture Collection. **BOTTOM LEFT Residence for Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Family,** Hurtig Gardner Froelich Collection. **BOTTOM RIGHT Antartican Community,** Donald K Olsen Collection. **BACKGROUND Counterpoint Floating,** Donald K Olsen Collection.



located in the OU Architecture Library, and the Mendel Glickman Collection and School of Architecture papers, already a part of the Western History Collections, can be considered important parts of the new American School Archive.

Moreover, we are fortunate to have the living part of the archive—many of the actual buildings—here in Norman. Among the buildings built by past OU architecture professors are two architectural masterpieces: the Ledbetter House by Bruce Goff which is OU property and listed on the National Register Historic Places, and the so-called “Prairie Chicken House” by Herb Greene, an icon of organic architecture from the latter half of the 20th century. Unfortunately, a third masterpiece, the famous Bavinger House, also designed by Goff, was destroyed several years ago. That said, we are working with Skyline Ink, an animation and illustration firm in Oklahoma City, to develop a 3D model and virtual reality experience of the building to make the space available again to visitors.

What is the potential for scholarship around the American School Archive?

The American School Archive will permit a deeper understanding of the legacy of organic architecture rooted in the architectural philosophies of Frank Lloyd Wright and Bruce Goff. There is still so much to study and discover in these documents, and there are many enthusiastic researchers and architects from around the world who are interested in the pedagogical experience

developed under the guidance of Goff and in the history of American architecture. Hopefully, in the coming years, the archive will continue to grow. Alumni who attended OU in the 1950s and ‘60s have begun donating their most valuable drawings, and I am sure we will receive additional gifts as news of the American School Archive spreads. Among recent gifts, I would like to highlight the Donald MacDonald Papers; the John Hurtig, Jim Gardner and Norman Froelich Collection; the Donald K. Olsen Collection; and the Arn Henderson Collection. The Henderson Collection is particularly important because of the research Henderson carried out related to architectural preservation in Oklahoma.

How do you see the exhibition in Venice position the American School Archive in the field of the history of architecture?

With support from the OU Provost’s Office and others, we are currently preparing an American School exhibition that will open during the 2018 Architecture Biennale in Venice, Italy. This exhibition will enable the Gibbs College of Architecture to connect with the global architecture community. Hundreds of thousands of international architects, academics and aficionados attend the Biennale, so we are fortunate to be able to highlight our history for this broad audience during one of the most important architectural exhibitions in the world. Following the Venice Biennale, we look forward to highlighting the American School here at OU with an exhibition in the Bizzell Memorial Library.



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