“Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. **They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life.**”

*Author Sidney Sheldon*

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### Table of Contents

3  A Message from the Dean
4  Embedding the Library in Research, Teaching, and Learning
9  Building the University of Miami Virtual Library
12  The Importance of Special Collections
17  Notable Acquisitions
23  Gifts that Ensure the Libraries’ Continued Excellence

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Each week while school is in session, **21,337** people enter the Otto G. Richter Library and **72,441** people visit our Web site.
A Message from the Dean

The last four years have been a period of continuous progress and achievement for the Libraries despite the uncertain economy and resulting financial constraints.

• We more than doubled the size of our Virtual Library, growing the number of e-books by 117 percent and the number of e-journals by 120 percent.
• We expanded our special collections by 723 linear feet – over 72 floors if the material were stacked vertically against a skyscraper – with significant additions to our Cuban Heritage Collection and our Florida and Latin America collections, and
• We built further value into our relationships with our user community by launching programs to help University faculty better integrate technology into their courses and develop original digital content.

Momentum on all fronts has moved the University of Miami Libraries into the ranks of the top 50 research libraries in North America.

In this report, we highlight some of the noteworthy programs driving this success. Each story gives a glimpse of the powerful partnership that has developed between Libraries and the University’s students and faculty, researchers worldwide, and our generous donors. They demonstrate the creativity and innovation we bring to our mission. Our approach is to anticipate user needs and then deliver tangible value to our user community, helping them access knowledge more easily, produce better quality work, or make more effective use of the time they devote to research.

The UM Virtual Library is a great example. We are wherever our users are, whether it be on the high seas on the Marine School’s research ship, in an architect’s studio or in a residence hall at three in the morning.

Our Special Collections of print, recorded sound, and image materials make available rare and primary source material. This helps power important historical research, document the art and architecture achievements of humankind, and map new paths for uncovering the yet unexplored.

Our new digital media services provide the University community with deep, sophisticated resources that energize research, teaching, and learning. University of Miami students benefit from one of the most comprehensive collections of information services available in the United States.

Libraries as a “place” continue to be important even in this digital age. We are always gratified by the large and diverse group that frequents the Otto G. Richter Library. Our main library is packed from early morning until late into the night. The Richter Library provides a cultural, intellectual home for our community of more than 960,000 annual visitors.

Success like this requires good friends. I want to thank our many donors who have provided generous support for this and future growth. University of Miami Provost Tom LeBlanc and President Donna E. Shalala have been especially helpful in providing institutional support. Their leadership, time, and attention have given us an enormous boost. Most important, our exceptional team of library professionals has been invaluable.

So where do we go from here? We will continue to focus intensely on:
• Harnessing the power of digital content for our user communities.
• Growing our special and distinctive collections of print, recorded sound, and image, and
• Strengthening and adding value to our relationships with all user communities.

In the digital landscape ahead our work promises to be both exciting and challenging. I’m confident the creativity and ingenuity of our team and the generosity of our supporters will allow the University of Miami Libraries to thrive.

William D. Walker
Dean and University Librarian
March 22, 2010
Embedding the Library in Research, Teaching, and Learning

The University of Miami Libraries are central to the University’s mission to educate and nurture students. To support this mission, the Libraries are forging new partnerships in research, teaching, and learning throughout the University and the community.

The Digital Library Fellowship Program fosters partnerships with faculty by providing funding and technological support for projects that create open-access resources with long-term relevance to the educational goals of University of Miami faculty and students.

Librarians and library technicians provide information and research services in person and through instant messaging, email, phone, and social networking sites.

Professor Eugene Provenzo, School of Education; Librarian Lyn MacCorkle; and Director of Digital Initiatives Anthony Smith, left to right, review an early version of the Web portal for research and scholarship in the field of community and educational well-being.
In March 2008, the Libraries awarded three University of Miami faculty members fellowships, providing stipends to assist in the creation of digital projects and resources to support the research, teaching, and learning mission of the University. The awardees include Eugene Provenzo, professor of teaching and learning in the School of Education; Barbara Whitlock, assistant professor of biology, and Patricia Saunders, associate professor of English, in the College of Arts and Sciences. The fellowships are an ongoing initiative to develop partnerships with faculty to create digital resources and e-scholarship for the University community and beyond.

**Community and Educational Well-Being Portal**

Eugene Provenzo’s Knowledge Management Project is part of the School of Education’s larger initiative to create a center of excellence in the study, promotion, and integration of educational, psychological, and physical well-being in multicultural communities.

Provenzo and the Libraries are working as a team to develop a portal for the school’s Dunsbaugh-Dalton Foundation Community and Educational Well-Being Research Center. The comprehensive research portal (http://cew.miami.edu) will link to related library resources, including podcasts of key scholars, a community blog, and expert bibliographies.

The project serves as a model for future University-wide collaborations. Librarians attend to the portal’s open-source information architecture, digital rights management, and the identification of information resources. “We believe that this model will have significant application and use across the University,” says Provenzo. “This is really part of formulating the new library and the new university. We are making data more malleable in ways that will encourage new forms of scholarship.”

**“As Far as the Eye/I Can See”**

“As Far as the Eye/I Can See: Caribbean Art and Visual Culture” is a visual resource featuring contemporary artists from the Caribbean. This project developed by Digital Fellow Patricia Saunders constitutes the most recent fruit of a collaboration that began in 2003 between the Libraries and the English Department’s Caribbean Literary Studies program. The current project and interactive Web site provide a showcase for contemporary Caribbean artists to share their visions, voices, and perspectives. Saunders used her fellowship to conduct video interviews with artists in Jamaica and Miami for the online archive.

“As Far as the Eye/I Can See” (http://scholar.library.miami.edu/caribbeanvisual/) incorporates social networking tools to enhance learning. Art critics can offer their opinions on current exhibits and encourage critical debate on contemporary visual art and culture. Open forums encourage students, artists, and other interested persons to post responses and comments about essays and artwork on the site.

The Web site served as an integral resource for Saunders’ students in her “Visual Culture in the Caribbean” course. “It brings the Caribbean art world to life for students in a very interactive way,” says Saunders.
Swingle Plant Anatomy Reference Collection

Digital Fellow Barbara Whitlock has developed a digital resource that utilizes a historical collection of plant anatomical slides made early in the twentieth century by botanist Walter Tennyson Swingle. A citrus expert in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Swingle collected plant specimens worldwide from the 1890s to the 1930s. He joined the University of Miami as chief of the Swingle Plant Research Laboratory in 1941.

Under Whitlock’s direction, University of Miami students made use of a specialized digital camera attached to a microscope to produce high-quality digital images of the slides. The project also utilized digital technology to animate a sequence of two-dimensional images to illustrate three-dimensional biological structures. “The reconstructed structures,” says Whitlock, “are invaluable aids for teaching students to think in three dimensions, an essential skill to understand plant structure and function.”

The project would allow the Swingle digital images and descriptions to link with other biological database projects. Using biodiversity data standards enabled the Swingle reference collection to be added to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, an international organization that provides free and open access to biodiversity data worldwide. Whitlock’s digital library fellowship will facilitate the use of the Swingle Plant Anatomy Reference Collection (http://swingle.miami.edu) by scientists around the world.

Education and Outreach Services for Students

Subject specialist librarians serve as a personal contact for students who have questions about library resources and services in specific disciplines and subject areas. As liaisons to academic departments, these librarians provide specialized research assistance and teach customized library instruction sessions designed to show students how to identify, access, and evaluate relevant resources for classroom assignments. They also create virtual guides in the disciplines or subject areas in which they specialize to help users conduct scholarly research in academic libraries.

Subject librarians are able to reach more students via the Blackboard course management system since the Instructional Advancement Office, which manages the Blackboard system, relocated to the Richter Library in 2008. They provide access to both general and course-specific e-resources and are available for email consultation through Blackboard.

Detail from Web-based library research guide for resources in history compiled by history librarian Chella Vaidyanathan. Subject specialist librarians have created over 100 of these “LibGuides” to support student and faculty research.
New Media Fuels Student Projects

The Libraries’ digital media (DM) lab provides a venue where students and faculty can develop or enhance new media skills and design digital projects and assignments. DM staff provide expert support and one-on-one consultation in the use and integration of state-of-the-art audio and video technology, Web development software, and image creation and editing tools. In 2008 the Libraries expanded digital media services on the first floor of the Richter Library to meet the growing need for equipment and software to develop new media in higher education.

The Libraries’ digital media experts help professors devise multimedia assignments and teach students how to create audio, video and Web content. English Department lecturers K.C. Culver and Zachary Hickman, for example, wanted to substitute a multimedia project for the traditional term paper for their freshman English composition classes.

These lecturers worked with DM Manager Bryanna Herzog to design a project in which teams of students applied concepts of traditional textual critical analysis to multimedia using the critically acclaimed TV series *The Wire*. Focusing on several different storytelling techniques, students identified video clips that used a specific technique and prepared their own voiceover commentary, each creating a DVD as their term project.

DM staff taught the students how to capture and edit their audio and video files for their final projects. Culver and Hickman evaluated those projects just as they would a term paper, looking for critical thinking, organization, content, and use of language.

“We like to think of the lab as an empowerment zone. The library provides the technology tools and expert guidance to give students the competencies they need to succeed in a networked society.”

Anthony D. Smith, director, Digital Initiatives and Services
Partnership to Create Faculty Learning Communities

The development of a Faculty Learning Community (FLC) program is the nucleus of the University of Miami’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), an essential component of the accreditation process by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. A QEP is a carefully designed course of action taken by colleges and universities that addresses a well-defined topic or issue relating to enhancing student learning.

The substantive focus of Miami’s five-year QEP project, “Faculty Learning Communities to Enhance Undergraduate Education,” is on Information, Communication, and Technology (ICT) literacy concepts. The plan makes use of FLCs as a way for faculty to learn how to incorporate technology and ICT literacy concepts into their courses and evaluate their impact on student learning. The Libraries play an integral role in the FLC program, working closely with the Office of the Senior Vice-Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education and the University’s Instructional Advancement Center.

Membership in an FLC requires a one-year commitment from participating faculty. The first FLC was launched in spring 2009 with eight faculty participants, a facilitator from the School of Education’s Teaching and Learning Department, and two librarians to assist with ICT literacy and digital technology development. The program is housed in the Richter Library, making use of the library’s state-of-the-art faculty exploratory. Students will also tackle their digital assignments in the Libraries’ enhanced digital media services lab.

Librarian FLC participants and departmental liaisons serve as consultants for the development of information literacy learning outcomes, clarification, and the use of digital technology for teaching. They will also assist in the development and maintenance of an interactive Web site and blog to support the FLC program. School of Education Assistant Professor Scotnay Evans, facilitator for the first FLC, considers collaboration between librarians and faculty essential to the success of the program.

The FLC program will continue through 2013 with a new FLC being formed each year. Forty to fifty faculty members from across the University will participate in the QEP’s first phase.
Library’s effectiveness today depends primarily on its ability to create, provide access to, manage, and preserve information in a digital environment. Every year scholars and students are accessing an increasing amount of digital materials through the University of Miami Virtual Library from their offices, homes, or residence halls.

The Libraries have invested heavily in electronic resources over the past few years. Last year we spent $8.6 million for e-resources and services, an 80 percent increase over our expenditures just two years ago. Our students and faculty can access over 67,000 full-text e-journals and 550,000 e-books, more than double the number of e-resources available in 2005.

The Libraries are working collaboratively with other University units to develop and preserve information born digitally. The Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) program, a joint effort between the Graduate School and the Libraries, provides a searchable, full-text repository of University of Miami theses and dissertations. The Libraries also work in partnership with faculty seeking to create innovative new electronic scholarly content through the Digital Library Fellowship Program.

Today, students and scholars from around the world have access to some 144,000 digitized images, pages from manuscripts, and other distinctive items via the UM Virtual Library’s digital initiatives Web portal (http://merrick.library.miami.edu/digital_initiatives.php).
As the collective memory of the University of Miami, the University Archives contains a rich trove of materials documenting the personalities and events that shaped the institution since its founding in 1926.

Now the records are being digitized, which allows alumni, historians, researchers, students, faculty and the general public, through the Web, even greater access, saving them the time and expense of an actual visit to the library.

The archives’ (http://www.library.miami.edu/universityarchives/) holdings include the University of Miami Historical Photograph Collection and the University of Miami Office of the President Records. The photos capture the look and feel of the University from its founding through the presidency of Henry King Stanford in 1981. There is an abundance of images of UM sports, special events, student life and the physical expansion of each campus. The presidential material gives an insight not only into the day-to-day workings of UM, but insight into the University’s response to many of the historic events of the twentieth century.

Led by Koichi Tasa, who was appointed the University’s first archivist in 2007, a team of part-time employees and student workers began to inventory, index, and preserve over a half million photographs, slides, and negatives in the collection. Over 7,000 have now been scanned and digitized, with metadata added to each photo so that the images can be searched by key words.

An even more ambitious project was started in the fall of 2009: the complete digitization of the papers of the first three presidents of the University of Miami. Tasa estimates there are over a million pages to be digitized, a project that could take five years to complete.

In the Libraries’ digital production lab, highly skilled staff produce digital images and remaster audio files for the University of Miami Virtual Library. Digital reformatting both preserves and makes available the fragile, unique, and valuable materials housed in the Libraries’ general and special collections, Cuban Heritage Collection, and University Archives.

Digitization creates new and exciting ways for diverse communities of potential users to discover these materials. In 2009, over 40,000 visitors from 160 countries visited the Libraries’ digital collections Web site to explore these unique resources.

Managing a library of digital assets requires a long-term commitment to the selection, preservation, and archiving of collections. National Archives and Records Administration specifications and Library of Congress best practices are followed for the creation of digital archival masters and related descriptive records.

The lab also prints high-quality facsimiles and posters for exhibits and makes digital reproductions for clients requesting copies of the Libraries’ rare and unique materials.
Advancing Scholarship in Cuban Theater

In January 2009, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded a planning grant to the University of Miami Libraries to develop a strategic plan for the University’s Cuban Theater Digital Archive. The work included community-driven design to develop a plan to advance this resource as a sustainable research, teaching, and learning tool.

The six-month project included two areas of activity: An environmental scan was conducted to identify similar projects to determine best practices in presentation, repository management, and learning and access tools; and a panel of experts representing potential users of the archive was convened to consult on the development of a new organizational structure for the program.

Co-principal investigators were Digital Projects Librarian Kyle Rinkus and Associate Professor Lillian Manzor.

This bilingual resource features interrelated information on writers, directors, texts, productions, festivals, performance venues, and theater companies. Digitized photographs, theater programs, and video excerpts of theater productions are also highlighted on the site.

The prototype was developed in 2005 through a digital library fellowship awarded to Lillian Manzor, associate professor of modern languages and literatures in the College of Arts and Sciences. Manzor has worked with the Libraries’ Cuban Heritage Collection to establish service learning projects for her undergraduate students for course credit since the venture’s inception.

Students are able to learn about collection organization and archival research practices as they identify and add content to the digital archive. In 2008, for example, the twenty-two students in Manzor’s “Caribbean Visual Culture” course researched theatrical performances, selected primary materials for digitization, keyed data into the database, and created records with descriptive information for items added to the archive.

A partnership between the College of Arts and Sciences and the Libraries has resulted in an important new media resource—the Cuban Theater Digital Archive (http://scholar.library.miami.edu/archivoteatral/). The partnership also provides opportunities for students to develop twenty-first century competencies in information management through service learning projects.

The Cuban Theater Digital Archive offers tools that help prepare students for the critical analysis of visual art forms and visual culture through the use of photographs and video streaming. An interactive pedagogical Web portal, the digital archive provides students and teachers from a variety of disciplines opportunities for networking as they explore its content.

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Service Learning Partnership with the College of Arts and Sciences

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The Importance of Special Collections

The scope and depth of the Libraries’ special collections distinguish the University of Miami from its peers and help establish the University as one of the nation’s elite institutions of higher learning. Researchers depend on our special collections’ rich primary sources and other rare and unique materials to build and support their scholarship. Miami’s holdings are particularly strong in manuscripts, images, and books from the diasporas of Cuba and the Caribbean and Latin America—materials that provide insight into the peoples and cultures of the greater Miami area and the region.

When Professor of History Donald Spivey teaches his students about the African American Civil Rights Movement, he doesn’t just point them towards books. He takes them to the Otto G. Richter Library’s special collections reading room to read the words and see the photographs of Miamians who experienced that revolutionary time period and the activists that engineered change.

“These first-hand reports, not filtered through the perspective of authors or historians, impress the students in ways textbooks cannot,” says Spivey, who teaches African American and American history. “Having access to collections where they can do research with primary sources is fantastic. It really develops the students’ analytical skills.”

The resources available to students in the Libraries’ Special Collections department have increased substantially in the last few years through the acquisition of several significant collections from Miami’s African American pioneers and activists.

“Most people don’t realize the importance of what they have, especially when they live through significant periods of history,” says Deputy University Librarian Yolanda Cooper. “Members of the African American community may want to consider the University of Miami as a repository for their archives where they will be preserved and made available to future generations.”
People gathered at an outdoor cafe in Havana, Cuba. These gathering places located across from the Capitolio were called “aires libres” [open-air cafes]. The undated photograph is from the Cuban Heritage Collection’s Toy Moon LLC Photograph Collection.
Digitized items from the Cuban Heritage Collection’s manuscript and photograph collections. Clockwise from top: Street vendor in Havana, from the album "Wonderful Trip to Cuba," ca. 1887; a school and houses in the countryside of the Oriente Province, Cuba, 1993; Guidelines for “Partido Revolucionario Cubano,” authenticated and signed by José Martí in 1892; General John Cabell Breckinridge’s account of his escape from Richmond to Cuba, 1865.
Images from the Cuban Refugee Center Records, processed with funding from the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs. From December 1, 1965 to April 6, 1973, airplanes traveled twice daily between Miami and Camarioca, Cuba, to shuttle Cuban refugees to the United States for emergency aid and resettlement through the U.S. Cuban Refugee Program. More than 500,000 refugees passed through the processing center at the Freedom Tower in downtown Miami (top).

Uncovering Hidden Collections

Over the past five years the Libraries have received several grants totaling $450,000 from the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs to process and digitize materials held in the Cuban Heritage Collection (CHC).

The grants also funded the development of a Cuban heritage educational program for Miami-Dade County Schools and a redesigned CHC Web site that provides worldwide access to these collections. These grants in support of the Libraries’ CHC preservation and access program were made possible by the leadership of Miami-Dade County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

Nineteen collections have been processed to date, including the Gastón Baquero Papers, Cuban Refugee Center Records, Leandro Soto Papers, Luis Santeiro Papers, Caridad Svich Papers, Cuban and Cuban American Theater Collection, and the Fulgencio Batista Zaldivar Collection. The grant also supported conversion to digital format of the Eddy Palmer Video Collection and the Osvaldo Sánchez Film Collection.

The Goizueta Foundation Grant

In May 2009 The Goizueta Foundation awarded the University of Miami $2,443,500 for a five-year grant to support a comprehensive, University-wide plan that will enhance and expand the reach of the Cuban Heritage Collection. The Goizueta Foundation grant creates a unique opportunity for the University to support the continued development and preservation of the Cuban Heritage Collection and to transform the CHC into a center for scholarly inquiry and discovery for the University community and beyond.

The Libraries will receive $2,170,000 to support collection acquisition, preservation, processing, and digitization of materials to include Web site development, marketing, and communications. This funding will also establish and support graduate research and the development of a fellowship program.

Other collaborative programming to assist in integration and use of the collection in the University curriculum will involve the creation of an undergraduate fellowship program with the College of Arts and Sciences and lecture series with the Institute for Cuban and Cuban American Affairs.
In 2006, the combined holdings of the University of Miami Libraries reached three million volumes, and the Libraries celebrated this milestone with the acquisition of a sixteenth century illuminated French manuscript once owned by William Randolph Hearst.

Over the past four years the Libraries have acquired a variety of rich primary sources and other rare and unique materials that support University research and scholarship. On the following pages are highlighted a selection of these notable print volumes and distinctive manuscript and image collections acquired by the Libraries’ Special Collections and Cuban Heritage Collection.

Notable Acquisitions

The University of Miami Libraries celebrated the acquisition of its three millionth book—the illuminated French manuscript *Dialogues et Chants Royaux*—at a symposium in October 2007.

This exquisite circa 1515 manuscript was written on twenty-four leaves of fine vellum, including four beautiful full-page miniatures in gold and color. A collection of religious poems by several authors in honor of the Virgin Mary, the handmade book is decorated with illuminated initial letters in red, blue, and gold. It was most likely produced by a manuscript workshop patronized by the wealthy nobleman Jacques Le Lieur in Rouen, France.

Symposium speakers included Professor of Art History and Senior Associate Dean Perri Lee Roberts, College of Arts and Sciences; Curator of Special Collections Eric White, Bridwell Library, Southern Methodist University; and Florence Fearrington Librarian William Stoneman, Houghton Library, Harvard University.

Three Millionth Book

One of the four full-page miniatures that appear in *Dialogues et Chants Royaux*, the Libraries’ three millionth book.
Notable Books

Featured below are a selection of notable and rare print volumes acquired between 2006 and 2009 for the Libraries’ Special Collections and the Cuban Heritage Collection.

Special Collections


- Bry, Theodor de. Brevis Narratio Eorum Quae in Florida Americae Provincia Gallis Acciderunt. Francoforti ad Moenum: 1591. This seminal work of early North America is one of the most detailed accounts of Florida in the sixteenth century. This account of the travels of illustrator Jacques LeMoyne features some of the earliest images of Florida’s native tribes. His depictions of the life and ceremonies of the Timucua Indians became iconographic representations of the New World for Europeans of the time.

- The English Pilot: The Fourth Book, Describing the West-India Navigation, from Hudson’s Bay to the River Amazones. London: Printed for Mount and Page, 1784. The English Pilot was one of the most popular nautical atlases of its time. It contains a variety of beautiful, large maps and illustrations of coastlines, harbors, sand banks, and other geographical information for sailors. Clearly used on board ship, this copy contains many manuscript notations in the margins and on the endpapers. This edition also contains some particularly rare maps of Cuba and the Caribbean.

- Mardrus, J.C. Histoire de Douce-Amie: Conte des Mille et une Nuit. Paris: Éditions René Kieffer, 1922. The exquisite binding on this volume is designed by contemporary hand bookbinder Julie Stackpole, who specializes in one-of-a-kind fine bindings. The full calf front cover of this French version of a tale from the Arabian Nights is decorated in deep navy, beige, green, red, and yellow trees, showcased within a silver-edged Moorish frame. The book is housed in a special fall-down case lined in quilted turquoise silk with gilt appliqué.

- Thouin, Gabriel. Plans Raisonnés de Toutes les Espèces de Jardins. Paris: Huzard, 1828. A lovely set of garden designs created by one of the most renowned landscape artists of his time, the large, lush illustrations and detailed descriptions of plants used in a variety of settings give readers a glimpse into the landscape design conventions of the late-eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Among the schemes are a project for enlarging the Jardin des Plantes in Paris and a plan for a garden in the “Torrid Zone” (a Caribbean locale).
Engraved illustration of two crabs, *Cangrejo moro* and *Cangrejo moro colorado*, from *Descripción de Diferentes Piezas de Historia Natural las Más del Ramo Marítimo*, by Antonio Parra (En La Havana: Ediciones de la Imprenta de la Capitanía General, 1787), the first scientific book published in Cuba.

**Cuban Heritage Collection**

- Bacigalupi, Pablo Luis. *Cartilla o Instrucción del Gastador*. Habana: J. Boloña, 1837. A rare item not found in any other institution, this Spanish military field manual, written by a lieutenant colonel of the Spanish army, provides information and instructions for the pioneering soldiers going to Cuba under the category of *gastadores* [combat engineers]. The manual includes two folded illustrations that show the soldiers’ tools and instructions on how to construct various structures.

- Casal, Julián del. *Hojas al Viento: Primeras Poesías*. Habana: El Retiro, 1890. Casal was one of the most important poets of the Modernist movement in Latin America. *Hojas al Viento*, the first of only two volumes of poetry published during his lifetime, shows the influence of the French Parnassian poets on the Latin American poetry of this period. A first edition, the collection is an example of Casal’s early writing style and provides insight into the historical and political world he inhabited.

- Gómez, Patricio José. *Diferentes Caracteres de Letras Recopiladas por Don Patricio José Gómez, Natural de Santander y Residente de la Ciudad de la Habana*. La Habana: 1803. This is a rare and beautiful Cuban calligraphic manuscript from the early nineteenth century. A different artistically designed border frames each unique page. This exquisite volume was purchased with funds provided by University of Miami librarian John McMinn.

- Parra, Antonio. *Descripción de Diferentes Piezas de Historia Natural las Más del Ramo Marítimo*. En La Havana: Ediciones de la Imprenta de la Capitanía General, 1787. Known as “The Book of Fishes,” this work is the first scientific book and first illustrated book published in Cuba. The author, a Portuguese naturalist, was commissioned in 1771 by the Spanish government and the Botanical Garden in Madrid to travel to Cuba in search of material. The seventy-five copper engravings depict a variety of marine species. It is the principal work of Francisco Javier Báez, the first Cuban engraver.
During the past four years the Libraries have acquired important archival collections that characterize the unique region in which the University is located. These collections document pioneer life in South Florida, chronicle the Black experience in Miami from the 1950s through the 1980s, and augment the region’s visual record.

Our vast resources on Cuba, the Cuban exile experience, and the culture and literature of the Cuban diaspora now include multimedia collections such as the INTAR Theatre Records and the Botifoll collection of oral histories. We have also acquired an extensive archive of Brazilian underground periodicals, an important resource for Latin American cultural studies.

The following pages feature selections from the Libraries’ distinctive manuscript and image archives acquired over the past four years.

**Distinctive Collections**

**Documenting South Florida Pioneer Life**

The Libraries have been fortunate to acquire collections that document the lives and times of three interrelated pioneer families who settled in the greater Miami area in the late 1800s. These extraordinarily rich archives include letters, photographs, diaries, and household accounts.

**The Ralph M. Munroe Family Papers**, given by his grandchildren Charles and William Munroe, include an impressive collection of photographs about early Miami, including Miami’s first tourist resort, Camp Biscayne, founded by Ralph Munroe in 1903. **The Lillian Frow Peacock and Eunice Peacock Merrick Collection**, a gift of former University of Miami librarian Mildred Merrick, consists primarily of albumen and cyanotype photographic prints depicting early Coconut Grove and the Miami area.

**The Woman’s Club of Coconut Grove Records** chronicle and document the evolution of women’s roles in a changing American society. Founded as the Housekeeper’s Club in 1891, the club is one of the oldest in the South and the oldest in Florida. Its charter members included Miami’s best-known early settlers. Club members were active in the suffrage movement and environmental issues. Mildred Merrick curated the club’s archives before they were donated to the Libraries in 2006.

Mrs. Tuttle’s tea party, Miami 1893. Landowner Julia Tuttle (fifth from left, back row, in profile) convinced tycoon Henry Flagler in 1895 to extend his Florida East Coast Railway from Palm Beach to Miami in exchange for land. Digitally restored photograph is from the Ralph M. Munroe Family Papers.
Chronicling the Black Experience

The University of Miami Libraries recently received several important archival collections that document the African American Civil Rights Movement and the Black experience in Miami. Together these documents, photographs, correspondence, and artifacts tell a story of struggle, community challenges, and hope for Black Miami in the twentieth century.

The Bob Simms Collection documents the life and activities of activist Robert H. Simms in the Black communities in Coconut Grove and Miami and reflects his work with the Community Relations Board and the Defense Race Relations Institute. The collection also contains the “Glory in the Grove” photographs of people and events at the George Washington Carver elementary and high schools in Coconut Grove before desegregation.

The Dr. John O. and Marie Faulkner Brown Papers trace the life and accomplishments of Dr. John O. Brown, Miami’s first Black ophthalmologist, and his family. A founding member of the Miami branch of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Dr. Brown helped to stage sit-ins at lunch counters and movie theaters and lead protests to integrate the city’s public beaches.

The Theodore R. Gibson Family Papers illustrate the life and career of Reverend Theodore Gibson, champion of Black Coconut Grove, who served as a Miami Commissioner in the 1970s and 1980s.

Michael L. Carlebach Photography Collection

In 2008, University of Miami Professor Emeritus Michael L. Carlebach donated his extensive photography collection to the Libraries. The collection contains original silver prints, color slides, and photoessays culled from his 40-year career as a professional photojournalist and documentary photographer.

Highlights of the Michael L. Carlebach Photography Collection include coverage of the George McGovern presidential campaign against Richard Nixon in 1972, exclusive images of Haitian refugees held at the Krome Avenue Detention Center in Miami, and documentary photographs of American life and landscapes.

Dr. Carlebach’s haunting and sometimes humorous images have been celebrated nationally and internationally. His photographs have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Time, People*, *American Heritage*, and *The Miami Herald*. 

Above: Cub Scouts from George Washington Carver Elementary School playing with fish in the school’s fish pond, 1953; photograph is from the Bob Simms Collection, “Glory in the Grove” series (photograph by Bob Simms).

The INTAR Theatre Records held by the Cuban Heritage Collection include the complete organizational history of the New York-based INTAR Theatre, one of the oldest Hispanic theater companies in the United States.

International Arts Relation, Inc. (INTAR) was founded in New York in 1966 as Asociación de Arte Latinoamericano (ADAL) by a group of Cuban and Puerto Rican writers and artists. In its early years INTAR focused on producing in Spanish the works of significant European and American playwrights.

In the 1970s, the theater company began to produce works in English by Iberoamerican and Latino writers. Building on this strength, INTAR emphasizes new works that reflect the cultural heritage and concerns of Hispanic communities in the United States.

The collection contains scripts, musical scores, correspondence, financial records, photographs, audiovisual materials, posters, programs, clippings, and other materials related to INTAR Theatre productions from its founding to 2004. Also included are the records of INTAR’s Latin American Gallery. Materials are in English and Spanish.

Leila Miccolis Brazilian Alternative Press Collection

The Libraries have acquired the Leila Miccolis Brazilian Alternative Press Collection, a rare and extensive archive of Brazilian underground journals, periodicals, and newspapers that were produced and circulated during the military dictatorship in the last century. The collection was painstakingly accumulated over the course of 45 years by poet Leila Miccolis.

Many of the publications in the collection document stigmatized or marginalized social groups. “Collectively these works represent Brazil’s burgeoning civil rights movement within the surrounding culture of repression,” states Steven Butterman, associate professor of Portuguese in the College of Arts and Sciences, who discovered the collection while conducting research in the state of Rio de Janeiro.
During the past four years, the Libraries have entered into a phase of extraordinary collection and resources growth. Today, the University of Miami Libraries are positioned among the top fifty research libraries in North America. This is especially impressive since the University is one of the youngest institutions in this peer group.

“As a long time library user, supporter and University trustee, I have witnessed this meteoric change in our libraries, says Arva Moore Parks, noted historian, author, and University of Miami trustee. “Because of this, I, along with others like Trustee Robert Simms and Fernando García-Chacón, Marqués de Salinas, have chosen to give our extensive South Florida and Cuban American history collections to the University of Miami Libraries.

“As new collections come to the Libraries, even greater resources are needed to protect and make them available for research. A financial commitment to the library helps both the Libraries and the University continue to rise in the academic world.”

The Helen Carmichael Purdy Florida Collections

The University of Miami Libraries named its Florida collection “The Helen Carmichael Purdy Florida Collections” in honor of Helen Carmichael “Mike” Purdy at a gala in December 2007. A Miami native, Purdy was head of the Library’s Archives and Special Collections Department from 1978 to 1990. To help the Libraries build outstanding special collections, Purdy created the Helen Carmichael Purdy Foundation when she retired from the University.

The Helen C. Purdy Florida Collections are a treasure trove of Florida’s history. They include books—more than 20,000 of them—as well as maps, manuscripts, photographs, postcards, posters, brochures, and other ephemera that document Florida’s architecture, politics, culture, and social and ethnic development from the sixteenth century to present day.

“With funds from the foundation, we have been able to acquire some of the best examples of early Floridiana that exist,” says Cristina Favretto, head of the Libraries’ Special Collections Division. “The Purdy Florida collections give our students access to rare books, manuscripts, and maps that otherwise would not be available to them. They can look at these primary sources and engage in research that might never have been done before.”
Luis J. Botifoll Oral History Project

The AMIGOS of the Libraries’ Cuban Heritage Collection sponsored an event in April 2008 to launch the Luis J. Botifoll Oral History Project. The project is named for former University of Miami Trustee Luis J. Botifoll, who was a leading light of the Cuban exile community and founding board member of the AMIGOS.

This series of oral history interviews offers an important first-hand perspective on the Cuban exile experience. The interviews complement research materials already held in the Cuban Heritage Collection and add depth to the historical record.

Candidates for Botifoll Oral History Project interviews are selected from various sectors of the community, including the arts, business, government, entertainment, religion, and the media. As of September 2009, fifteen interviews have been conducted, and more are in process.

The Botifoll interviews will be available in the Cuban Heritage Collection with online access to video excerpts and full transcripts in the CHC digital library at www.library.miami.edu/chc/.

Featured Alumni Donors

PHILLIP T. GEORGE, M.D., an alumnus of the Miller School of Medicine, is the current chair of the University of Miami’s Board of Trustees. A retired plastic surgeon and private investor, Dr. George has given broad support across the University to the College of Arts and Sciences, University Athletics, and the Miller School of Medicine. Over the past five years Dr. George has made unrestricted gifts to the University of Miami Libraries used to recruit highly talented library professionals and to support digital initiatives.

JOSEPHINE A. JOHNSON, Ph.D., is an alumna of the College of Arts and Sciences. After receiving her Ph.D. from Leeds University, she returned to the University of Miami to teach in the Theater Department and later chaired the Department of Communications. Dr. Johnson has established the Josephine Johnson British Poetry Endowment to provide support for British poetry performance, criticism, and research at the University and greater Miami community.

SAUNDRA R. AND ALAN G. KAPLAN are alumni of the University of Miami School of Business Administration. Saundra Kaplan is an accountant, and Alan Kaplan is an organizational specialist. The Kaplans have been giving back to the University since they graduated. In 2009 they established a charitable gift annuity to support the Marta and Austin Weeks Music Library’s greatest needs.

ROBERT LEE KELLEY, Ph.D. (1937-2006) was an alumnus of the College of Arts and Sciences who received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. He returned to the University of Miami where he taught for 40 years in the Department of Mathematics. An environmental activist and consummate book collector, Dr. Kelley found satisfaction in the Otto G. Richter Library and left a bequest to be used as an unrestricted gift.

Thank you for your generous support.

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