A UNIVERSAL RESOURCE

With 5.4 million cataloged items, the UWM Libraries support every one of the university’s colleges, schools, institutes, and centers. The Libraries include general and Special Collections, Archives, the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons, and three distinct libraries: Media and Reserve, Music, and the renowned American Geographical Society Library—all housed within the Golda Meir Library building.

Students, faculty, and others working in the humanities and social sciences, architecture, the arts, business, education, engineering, freshwater sciences, health sciences, information studies, public health, and social welfare rely on the Libraries to achieve academic success and career goals. Students use the Libraries to find scholarly resources, to study, and to meet in small groups. Our faculty utilize our collections and services as they conduct top-tier—and often interdisciplinary—research that positively affects the region’s economy, environment, and health. As an urban public research institution, our doors and extraordinary resources are open to the entire Milwaukee community, and our award-winning digital collections are freely available to researchers worldwide.

The library is far more than a repository of materials; it is a dynamic learning and teaching environment. This campaign will help bolster the UWM Libraries’ role as an essential resource for students, faculty, and the community. Please take a moment to learn what is possible with the support of friends like you.

CAMPAIGN GOAL: $5 MILLION

Completed in 2009, the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons contains UWM’s largest computer lab, reference services, library circulation, classrooms, and a café.
MENTORING STUDENTS TO BECOME INFORMATION LEADERS

The UWM Libraries provide students from the School of Information Studies with the experience and skills they need to become tomorrow’s leaders in the information profession. Through student internships and postgraduate residencies, these rising information professionals work alongside professional librarians and archivists, applying their classroom experience to real-world situations.

Students who have received training at the UWM Libraries have gone on to positions at the Library of Congress, Stanford University, NATO, New York Public Library, and the National Archives, among many other libraries and cultural institutions. Information professionals are immediately employable, particularly in firms that rely on the effective use of information, such as communications, marketing, law, business, technology services, and research.

Financial support for student internships will substantially strengthen the number of students the Libraries could mentor. More interns would also mean greater service to students, faculty, and researchers, as interns work in key functional areas of the Libraries.

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

Student interns work in specific areas, such as User Services, Archives, Special Collections, the American Geographical Society Library, or the Music Library. You may support interns in any area that is special to you by contributing to the Student Internship Fund, or you may honor someone by establishing a named internship through a lasting endowment or a multi-year commitment of support.

POST-DEGREE RESIDENCIES

Newly graduated professionals participate as full members of one of our library departments, focusing on projects that develop their skills and talents. This practical experience for our School of Information Studies graduates gives them a distinct career advantage. Support for residencies allows more of our UWM graduates to take advantage of this opportunity.

GOAL FOR STUDENT SUPPORT: $500,000

PREPARING INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS

Julie Flessas discovered the UWM Libraries’ award-winning March on Milwaukee: Civil Rights History Project website while looking over the shoulder of her son, who was writing a paper on the topic. Flessas, a Milwaukee attorney whose father, John, had been a civil rights activist, was so impressed that she and her family established the UWM Libraries’ first donor-supported student internship.

Emma Cobb, the first recipient of the Margaret and John Flessas Internship in Archives & Special Collections, says the internship helped her develop “a more thorough knowledge of the library and archives profession beyond what classroom experiences alone could have provided.” She is now a librarian at the New Berlin and West Allis Public Libraries.

Ashley Eklof moved directly from her internship at UWM to lead the nation’s first all-digital public library, located in San Antonio, Texas. “As the founding librarian of BiblioTech,” she says, “I drew extensively on the training I received in my internship at the UWM Libraries. The knowledge I gained there proved vital to my success.”

“ My family is proud to extend our parents’ legacy by supporting graduate interns and preserving Milwaukee’s history at the UWM Libraries.”

JULIE FLESSAS

JULIE FLESSAS

EMMA COBB ’11, ’14

ASHLEY EKLOF ’11, ’13
PROVIDING WORLD-CLASS RESOURCES

Recently ranked as one of the nation’s 115 Research 1 universities, UWM boasts an exceptional community of scholars and researchers. To retain this top-tier ranking and to attract even more exceptional faculty, a new Research Commons will be added in the Golda Meir Library building to better serve faculty and students alike in their pursuit of knowledge, innovation, and creation. This collaborative space will bring together campus community members who are otherwise separated by discipline and geography.

In addition to this proposed state-of-the-art facility, access to resources and collections that support the research of our faculty and students is critical. This campaign will ensure the availability of these resources for all our researchers, whether they are seeking to create a healthier community, increase entrepreneurship, or enhance local and global development.

RESEARCH COMMONS
This renovation within the Golda Meir Library building is designed specifically for students and faculty involved in research. Support for this effort will help us transform our space for a new generation of scholars. Naming opportunities are available.

RESEARCH RESOURCES
As our campus community seeks to expand its knowledge in growth areas, such as entrepreneurship, freshwater sciences, and public health, our resources to support that research must also expand. We aim to delve deeper into topics such as energy and biomedical engineering entrepreneurship, global sustainability, and healthy living.

UNIQUE COLLECTIONS
As keepers of knowledge for future generations, we seek to acquire, preserve, and digitize the unique collections of the American Geographical Society Library and our Archives and Special Collections. Your gift will help ensure that these resources remain accessible for years to come.

GOAL FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT: $3.5 MILLION

SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF NEW KNOWLEDGE

A new Research Commons is imperative for UWM to accelerate its exceptional research and teaching excellence for the current and next generation of scholars. This large and flexible space will provide a technology-rich environment suited for interdisciplinary collaborations. Like the Lubar Center for Entrepreneurship, the Research Commons will be a critical tool for attracting, recruiting, and retaining enterprising faculty. This new facility will help professors engage students in research, which is directly tied to student success.

The proposed Research Commons builds on the success of the Digital Humanities Lab, a pilot project established in the fall of 2013. The lab has become a magnet for students, faculty, and staff conducting innovative research using technology, data analysis, visualizations, and other tools. Research utilizing these methods is producing important findings and advancing discovery in all disciplines.

Julie Kline, associate director of UWM’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies says, “The breadth of the Libraries’ general collection, as well as the uniqueness of the American Geographical Society Library, Special Collections, and the Américas Award Collection, contribute to our center’s ability to stand out nationally among peer institutions.”

MARIANNE LUBAR ’13
ACCESS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The UWM Libraries are open literally and virtually to southeastern Wisconsin and the world. Throughout the year, community members attend a wide range of lectures. Area middle school students research projects for National History Day, high school students learn information-literacy skills and prepare for college, and undergraduates from nearby universities and colleges visit us for our world-class resources. Our Digital Humanities Lab collaborates with cultural heritage institutions on web-based, local history projects while international scholars explore the American Geographical Society Library’s exceptional collections. The Friends of the Golda Meir Library are important partners, serving as a critical link between the Libraries and the wider community.

GOAL FOR ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT: $1 MILLION

INNOVATION IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH

A new partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools brings high school students to the Golda Meir Library and inspires them to consider college. Private funding will help the Libraries pursue innovative collaborations with the community to support student success.

LECTURES AND PROGRAMS

Educational and cultural programming helps promote our collections and brings world-renowned speakers to campus. Increase the Libraries’ visibility and honor a loved one through a gift to name a series of lectures or programs.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The American Geographical Society Library provides scholars from around the world the opportunity to delve into our vast and distinguished collections. Support of the fellowship programs increases access to these collections and helps reveal the stories they have yet to tell.

DIRECTORSHIP

The director provides vision and leadership that engages the entire academic community and builds partnerships with the community. An endowment will ensure that UWM always has an innovative leader and talented administrator in this crucial position.

A LIBRARY FOR THE COMMUNITY

The March on Milwaukee: Civil Rights History Project is an extraordinary digital collection of photographs, unedited footage from the WTMJ-TV News Film Archives, and interviews of participants in the civil rights movement. Created by the Libraries’ Archives Department and Digital Collections and the UWM Department of History, this site has been accessed by thousands of middle school and high school students, undergraduates, faculty, and scholars.

In addition to preserving local history, the UWM Libraries contribute to international knowledge and awareness. In 2012, a 7-foot painted scroll in our American Geographical Society Library was identified as a 17th-century map of a village in Mexico, thanks to our AGSL staff, UWM and Marquette faculty, and two Dutch scholars working in Mexico.

“UWM is part of a circuit that creates and disseminates information of worldwide significance,” says Aims McGuinness, a UWM history professor and one of the first to realize the map might be important. “This map is more than just a curiosity; it gives us new knowledge of Mexico.” A facsimile of the map was presented to the Mexican village, and a replica has also been displayed at Milwaukee’s Fiesta Mexicana.
Our donors provide critical support for the Libraries’ mission. The Libraries are the heart of UWM’s academic enterprise, providing faculty, students, and staff with the collections and services they need to conduct their research and educate the next generation. Thank you for your generous support.

MICHAEL DOYLEN ’00
INTERIM ASSOCIATE VICE PROVOST & DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES

UWM Libraries connect people with knowledge, advance intellectual growth and discovery, and promote the recruitment, retention, and scholarship of students and faculty. When you invest in UWM Libraries, your generosity benefits the entire university. Make the largest impact you can by supporting UWM Libraries.

EWA BARCZYK
DIRECTOR EMERITA

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MICHAEL DOYLEN ’00
INTERIM ASSOCIATE VICE PROVOST & DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES
People are amazed when they learn of the vast resources that support research and encourage curiosity. The UWM Libraries are a treasure for all!

– LYNNE PEARSON ’79, ’88
PRESIDENT OF FRIENDS OF THE GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY

First as a student and then as a public historian, I’ve found the Golda Meir Library to be an indispensable resource, with collections found nowhere else on earth.

– JOHN GURDA ’78, ’13
AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN

I am delighted to sponsor a program that brings prominent book artists to UWM. Everyone can find treasures to celebrate and support at the Libraries.

– SUZY ETTINGER
PRESIDENT OF THE ETTINGER FAMILY FOUNDATION