Friends unite to create new teaching space

Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. have donated $50 000 to launch the Library’s fundraising project to create a dedicated teaching space within the Fryer Library. The University of Queensland Library is aiming to raise $210 000 to create the Fryer Library Collection Teaching Space. This will transform part of the reading room and allow for greater use of special collections in support of teaching and learning.

Manager of the Fryer Library, Mr Simon Farley, expressed gratitude to Alumni Friends for their support.

"I thank Alumni Friends deeply for the donation of $50 000 toward this project. It will be a place where we can incorporate rare treasures into hands-on teaching, whilst also utilising digital technologies in discovery and assessment outcomes. "We are currently working with Senior Lecturer in English Literature, Dr Jennifer Clement from the UQ School of Communication and Arts, on her course, The Text in Time, that will incorporate our rare books, many of which Alumni Friends have helped us acquire over the years.

"The space will provide the perfect setting for object based learning," he said. The study space will be themed around architecture, and will include large, interactive digital screens that will allow students and researchers to access digitised collections, including plans, in their original size. Adjacent to the room will be an outdoor terrace, overlooking the Great Court, to facilitate networking events.

Thank you to our alumni, friends and members of the community who have already supported this project.

The cheque was presented at Fifty Years of Friendship, an event to celebrate Alumni Friends’ Golden Jubilee.
Dr Margaret Hammer has donated funds to establish a fellowship in memory of her parents, Rae and George Hammer, to celebrate the value they placed on education.

The Rae and George Hammer Memorial Visiting Research Fellowship provides up to $2500 a year for Honours, Masters and PhD students from universities outside of Brisbane to use the collections held in The University of Queensland’s Fryer Library.

Rae and George Hammer lived their entire lives in New Zealand and were both proud New Zealanders. They pursued successful careers as secondary school teachers and believed in the transforming power of a university education. Dr Hammer remembers their love of learning.

‘My parents grew up in a very different age and were both children during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The things they saw, and the experiences they had, shaped them and their understanding of education forever.

‘I can remember my mother telling me how, as a five year old, she had been devastated to learn that she would have to wait until she was six to start school because the government had decided to raise the school entry age in an effort to save money.

‘The sense of injustice she felt never really left her, making her feel that education was a real privilege so it was important to make the most of it while you could,’ she said.

They began their teaching careers in 1955 and, over the next forty years, became leaders of the teaching profession in New Zealand. George Hammer retired in 1985 after 13 years as a school principal, while Rae Hammer retired in 1993, after 31 years as a deputy principal.

After the death of her parents, Dr Hammer wanted to do something to remember them and to assist young researchers. She had pursued a career in research herself and knew how difficult it could be for young scholars to acquire funding to spend time working in a library or archive.

‘I remember having to travel to libraries and archives all over England to complete essential research for my PhD. It was expensive, time-consuming and exhausting so I thought I might be able to help others,’ Dr Hammer said.

‘I feel privileged to have the opportunity to honour my beloved parents through this fellowship and to be able to assist the next generation of researchers to complete their studies and achieve their dreams.’

For more information visit www.library.uq.edu.au/about-us/awards-and-fellowships/rae-and-george-hammer-memorial-visiting-research-fellowship

A closer look at Australian poetry

BANJO JAMES
PhD student, The University of Adelaide
2017 Rae and George Hammer Memorial Visiting Research Fellowship Recipient

Banjo James will visit the Fryer Library to study the John Forbes Collection (UQFL148). His project will focus on a psychoanalytic reading of melancholy theory in the work of the Australian poet, John Forbes (1950–1998). Banjo’s research will use Freud’s 1924 essay, ‘Mourning and Melancholia’, which defines melancholia as a failure to mourn the lost object. He will then take the idea of the lost object (the deceased) and extend it to a broader definition of mourning: lost loves, ideas and ideologies. He will make use of the manuscripts in the collection—biographical data, correspondence, essays, reviews and the unpublished poems. The correspondence between Forbes (as editor of various small presses) and contributing authors will provide an opportunity to contextualise, and provide deeper insight into this crucial period of Australian poetry.
UQ architecture students reignite Robin Gibson’s collection

UQ Master of Architecture students were able to delve into the collection of the prominent Queensland architect Robin Gibson.

The family of the late Robin Gibson have generously donated his collection of architectural plans, drawings and correspondence to the Fryer Library.

As part of their research selective, the course asked students to create an exhibition on the life and work of Robin Gibson using public collections and his private collection that has been donated to the Fryer Library. The course was coordinated by Dr Deborah van der Plaat, Dr Janina Gosseye and Adjunct Professor Don Watson.

‘It was a rewarding experience for the students to search through the collection. They would come across little ‘treasures’ in the collection, either buildings that they didn’t know that Gibson had designed, or a beautiful drawing or sketch that has been buried in the archive for decades,’ Dr Gosseye said.

‘Some students really succeeded in bringing the archive to life. One student, for instance made a digital model of ‘Gibson’s Utopia’; it included three projects that Gibson designed, which were never realised.

‘As some of these unrealised projects were still in the early phases of the design, creating a truthful 3D model of these projects was quite a challenge and required informed interpretation from the student. It necessitated the student to fully understand Gibson’s design approach,’ she said.

A further benefit of the collection being housed in the Fryer Library is that it allows the information to be preserved, catalogued and accessed by a wide range of researchers.

‘So far, no comprehensive study has been done on the work of Robin Gibson so it is of the utmost importance to preserve his collection, not only for Brisbane’s architectural community, but for all Queenslanders,’ Dr Gosseye said.

‘Gibson had a great impact not only on the state’s architectural landscape, but also on its cultural landscape. The Gibson records at Fryer thus document part of Queensland’s cultural history.’

View the Utopia video created by Master of Architecture student Jonathan Chew [www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwJPzuaeusk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwJPzuaeusk)
History of the Cecil Hadgraft Memorial Fund remembered

Cecil Hadgraft had a 55-year association with UQ as a student and lecturer. He was a Reader in the English Department and a prominent critic and historian of Australian literature.

He passed away in 1987. To honour his legacy and celebrate his contribution to Australian literature, a group of passionate staff and alumni formed a committee to raise funds to create the Cecil Hadgraft Memorial Fund. The purpose of the Fund was to expand the collection of 19th- and 20th-century Australian literature in the Fryer Library.

Donations came in from all over Australia, as well as from the United Kingdom, America, Italy, New Zealand, Canada, India and Algeria, with many supporters including letters that spoke of their fond memories of Cecil. One student recalled Cecil’s endearing habit of keeping a stash of chocolate biscuits in his desk which he would offer to students who had dropped in for consultation or advice.

The committee received 262 individual donations and raised over $13,500. The funds are endowed, generating income that the Fryer Library uses to purchase items to add to the Cecil Hadgraft Memorial Collection.

Technology in our Centre for Digital Scholarship is allowing researchers from across the world to look at 3D scans of objects in our Father Edward Leo Hayes Collection, preserve and share photographs from sculptor Daphne Mayo’s collection, and create 3D models of fossils.

UG graduate Nick Wiggins knows first-hand the benefit of having access to advanced software not available on regular University computers.

To complement his Honours Thesis in palaeontology he created a 3D model of a fossil wombat skull. This meant that when he had to do further analysis he didn’t need to travel back to the Australian Age of Dinosaurs in Winton where the fossil is housed.

He took several 2D photographs of the skull from different angles and then used photogrammetry software to stitch together a 3D model that he used for his presentation. This allowed him to show the school a realistic model of the wombat skull.

Nick now works for our Centre for Digital Scholarship as one of our experts that provide support to students who are using the space.

‘An advantage of students having access to a wide range of new technologies is getting them to approach problems in ways they haven’t done previously. It opens people’s minds to new ideas and encourages creativity,’ Nick said.

‘An example of this is sports historians in the School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences who are now using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software to extract spatial elements in historical data. It provides a much more interesting way of analysing and then displaying history.’

The Centre for Digital Scholarship opened in 2016 and is dedicated to ensuring that students and researchers have access to the equipment, software and training they need to master new digital technologies. The Centre has trained staff available daily to assist clients with using the software, Bookeye scanner, and the 3D printer.

The Centre is located on Level 5 of the Duhig Tower (Building 2) at St Lucia. To find out more, contact Mr Bill Beach, Manager of the Centre for Digital Scholarship, email b.beach@library.uq.edu.au or phone +61 (7) 334 64323.

The Library opens digital doors

Nick Wiggins taking photographs of a wombat fossil to create a 3D model.
Warmington Bequest continues the fight for equitable architecture

The generous bequest left by respected architect Dr Rodney Warmington will continue his life’s work of fighting for equitable architecture.

Dr Warmington, who became a paraplegic after an accident in 1966, dedicated his life to improving the accessibility and livability of buildings for all Australians, especially people with a disability.

The Warmington Bequest will be used to build the Library collections in health and well-being architecture, which will support an Australian Research Council project led by Professor Paul Memmott to improve the architectural design of hospitals and clinics for Indigenous users.

Director of the Aboriginal Environments Research Centre (AERC), Professor Memmott said Dr Warmington dedicated his career to fighting for equity in architecture.

‘We are interested in issues of equity in architecture and Dr Warmington was at the vanguard of making buildings accessible for people. In the 1970s, he was politically lobbying for improvements in building standards for disabled people,’ Professor Memmott said.

‘Our project is concerned with equitable access for Indigenous people when they visit hospitals and clinics. Indigenous people are suffering as they do not receive enough medical services and one of the issues is how friendly the environment is for them.

‘Our research will address this and we are hoping to set new standards for the design for hospitals and clinics. This will flow through and create equitable access to institutional type buildings, courts, hospitals and aged care facilities,’ he said.

Master of Architecture students will use the new resources to support the design and research projects they will complete throughout their course.

The Library is grateful to the late Dr Warmington for the wonderful impact he has made for the students and researchers at UQ with his gift.

If you too would like to leave a bequest or memorial gift in your will please contact the Library Advancement Manager Ms Erin Pearl on +61 (7) 336 53483 for a confidential conversation.

Bright idea from Library supporter

Dr Rodney Warmington also gifted to the Library his collection of Pulitzer Prize winning novels. Library supporter Mrs Violet Kuskie, who taught Dr Warmington in primary school in Townsville, had the idea to put the funds towards filling any gaps in our collection of Pulitzer Prize winning novels. The Library appreciated this idea and we now have a complete collection thanks to his generosity.
Thank-you for valuing the work we do.

The University of Queensland Library gratefully acknowledges its donors who generously donated between 1 January 2016 and 31 May 2017.

Your support has allowed us to grow and preserve our collections and bring much needed Library resources and services to our community.

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and Gail Wiltshire
Daniel and Edna Winkel
Anonymous (43)

Organisations

Board of Architects of Queensland
Taylor and Francis Group

UQ Bequest Society

The following alumni and friends have indicated their intention to remember The University of Queensland

Library in their wills:
Dan Baker
Jeanette Knox
Violet Kuskie
Eric Marson
Anonymous (3)

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Harry Throssell
Clem Tisdell
Ted Tow in memory of
his father Dr P.G. Tow
Richard and Vicky von
Witt in memory of
Dr William Stephen von
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Sam Walpole
Rita Ward OAM
Don Watson
Lilla Watson
Michael White OAM QC
Gillian Whitlock
Olivia Williamson
Jacinda Wilson
Jena Woodhouse

Lingyu Xie in memory of Emeritus
Professor Max Howell AO

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e-mail e.pearl@library.uq.edu.au

The University of Queensland
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Connect students with our rare and unique collections

Help us create a dedicated teaching space within the Fryer Library to allow for greater access to our special collections for students across all disciplines of the University and our wider community.

Thank you!

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