#### The Graduate Theological Union (GTU)

has received a grant of \$1 million from the William R. Hewlett Revocable Trust. The grant will fund the Flora Lamson Hewlett Library Space and Technology Improvements, Phase One: the installation of compact moveable shelving to accommodate the expanding collection, and space and technology improvements, including an electronic training facility and digital reading room. GTU is an ecumenical and interfaith consortium of seminaries, affiliated centers, and program units.

#### Drake University has received a \$500,000

grant from the Gardner and Florence Cowles Foundation to restore and renovate portions of the Cowles Library which was constructed in 1937. The restoration will include the main reading room, conference and group study rooms, and a new gallery for the display of special collections and archival material. The library will also install a wireless network that will provide access throughout the facility. The Cowles family has been a benefactor of the Cowles Library for more than 60 years.

#### The University of Florida's

Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to assist in the preservation, cataloging, and increased accessibility via microfilm and the Internet of approximately 8,600 of its 90.000 volumes. The \$381.220 grant, phase one of three twoyear program proposals, will begin with the complete microfilm preservation of 8,600 volumes published in the United States and Great Britain from 1850 to 1869. Subsequent

projects will address an additional 20,000 volumes for the period from 1870 to 1910. Because this period saw children's literature make increased use of color in book covers

and illustration, which cannot be conveyed through traditional preservation microfilm, the project includes a digital component for materials with color illustrations.

#### Acquisitions

#### The papers and archives of author Eric

McCormack have been donated to the University of Waterloo (UW). His literary works produced over the last 25 years are well-documented in the 1.5 linear meters of archives opened to researchers. McCormack was born in Scotland, later emigrated to Canada, and, since 1970, has been teaching at St. Jerome's University at UW. He started his career writing short stories, and, in 1987, his first book *Inspecting the Vaults* was released. *The Paradise Motel* and *The Mysterium* were released in 1989.

#### More than 400 items from the estate of

American collector and philanthropist Paul Mellon (who died in February 1999) have been acquired by the University of Virginia





One of the letters penned by Thomas Jefferson, which can be found in the collection at the University of Virginia.

(UV). His collection of rare books, manuscripts, maps, and atlases, pertaining primarily to Virginia and American history, made him to some experts the "greatest American book

collector of the second half of the 20th century." Some of the items in the collection include six letters penned by Thomas Jefferson, including one containing his most famous quotation about slavery; a personal letter written by George Washington on May 20, 1797, to Revolutionary War General William Heath; and a rare edition of Christopher Columbus's firsthand account of the discovery of the New World.

The papers of poet Hannah Weiner (1928-

97) have been acquired by the Mandeville Special Collections Library at the University of California in San Diego. Weiner published her first book of poetry, The Magritte Poems, in 1966. With the subsequent publication of experimental journals "clairvoyantly" dictated in part, Weiner established herself as one of the central figures in the language-centered writing of the late 1970s and 1980s. Comprised largely of materials from the 1970s and a smaller amount from the 1990s, the archive includes notebooks, typescripts, audio-recordings of Weiner's performances, and biographical documents. The notebooks richly illustrate Weiner's compositional strategies, as they are where much of her writing projects first began. The typescripts are of Weiner's numerous small works and talks published in small press magazines and of her major books, including Clairvovant Journal (1973), Code Poems (1982). and Spoke (1984).

#### The personal music library of the late Sam

di Bonaventura, a professor of music at George Mason University (GMU) from 1975 to 1998, was donated to GMU. The collection includes 1.100 hardcover books, 900 paperback books, music encyclopedias and reference dictionaries, 1,006 compact discs, 3,966 records, 2,000 scores, more than 32 periodicals, 10 videos, music notebooks, and numerous pages of sheet music. The bequest includes the book The Italian Madrigal, inscribed by composer Walter Piston, and new editions of Bach and Mozart music. "The personal library consists of books on every conceivable music topic-sound recordings of orchestral, choral, operatic, and chamber music compositions, as well as sheet music for violin, piano, chamber and vocal works, among personal papers and scrapbooks," said John Zenelis, university librarian.

More than 30 hours of videotaped interviews with former President Richard Nixon have been acquired by the University of Georgia (UG). Conducted by writer and historian Frank Gannon, the tapes, valued at \$900,000 are being given to UG by Raiford Communications. Inc. While there is an abundance of film and video available featuring Nixon in the years prior to his presidency, he made relatively few postresignation television appearances. Taking place nearly a decade after Nixon's resignation. the Gannon interviews were conducted in four groups of two- and three-day sessions spread over seven months. Each two-hour interview was organized around a specific topic, including Vietnam, China, the Soviet Union, the Middle East, the Watergate scandal and Nixon's resignation as president, U.S. domestic policies, U.S. presidents, foreign leaders, and Nixon's reflections on his career. A sense of trust existed between Nixon and Gannon, a friend and former employee. allowing Nixon to be more candid than he was in any other interview setting.

#### The collection of Judge James W. M.

Harris has been purchased by the Digital Library and Archives (a unit of University Libraries at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) with support from a grant by the George R. Wallace Foundation. After evacuating his family and their slaves from their plantation in Vicksburg, Mississippi, Harris became an auditor in the Confederate Post Office Department and Treasury in Richmond, Virginia. More than 120 letters have survived from this "goosequill warrior" who corresponded heavily with his family and business associates from May 1863 to January 1865. Harris also visited his brother, General Nat Harris, at nearby battlefields, and documented this aspect of the American Civil War through drawings and maps of encampments. The collection includes his wife's and her mother's pocket diaries, documenting their slaves' names, shoe sizes, and the like. Additional letters record his return to law practice and his attempt to become governor of the Washington Territory. See http://spec.lib. vt.edu/mss/ms2000-085index.html.

Ed. note: Send your news to: Grants & Acquisitions, C&RL News, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; e-mail: ayoung@ala.org.

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