

BURKE LIBRARY

NEWS

Academic Year 2015/16

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK * COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Director's Message

By: Beth Bidlack



As you can see from the content in this issue of our newsletter, the Burke Library staff has had a very busy year. We said goodbye and thank you to some of our valued colleagues and welcomed new colleagues. We expanded our instructional offerings and partnered with new faculty across the larger

Columbia, Union Seminary, and Barnard communities. In particular, we continued our support of Union students' via our #LoveInAction initiatives. We started several important projects this year and continue to acquire important resources to enhance our strong collections. In addition, we secured a grant from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation to be used for our three-year project to process major portions of the UTS archives, including papers from faculty members, students, and organizations founded by UTS graduates, faculty and affiliates.

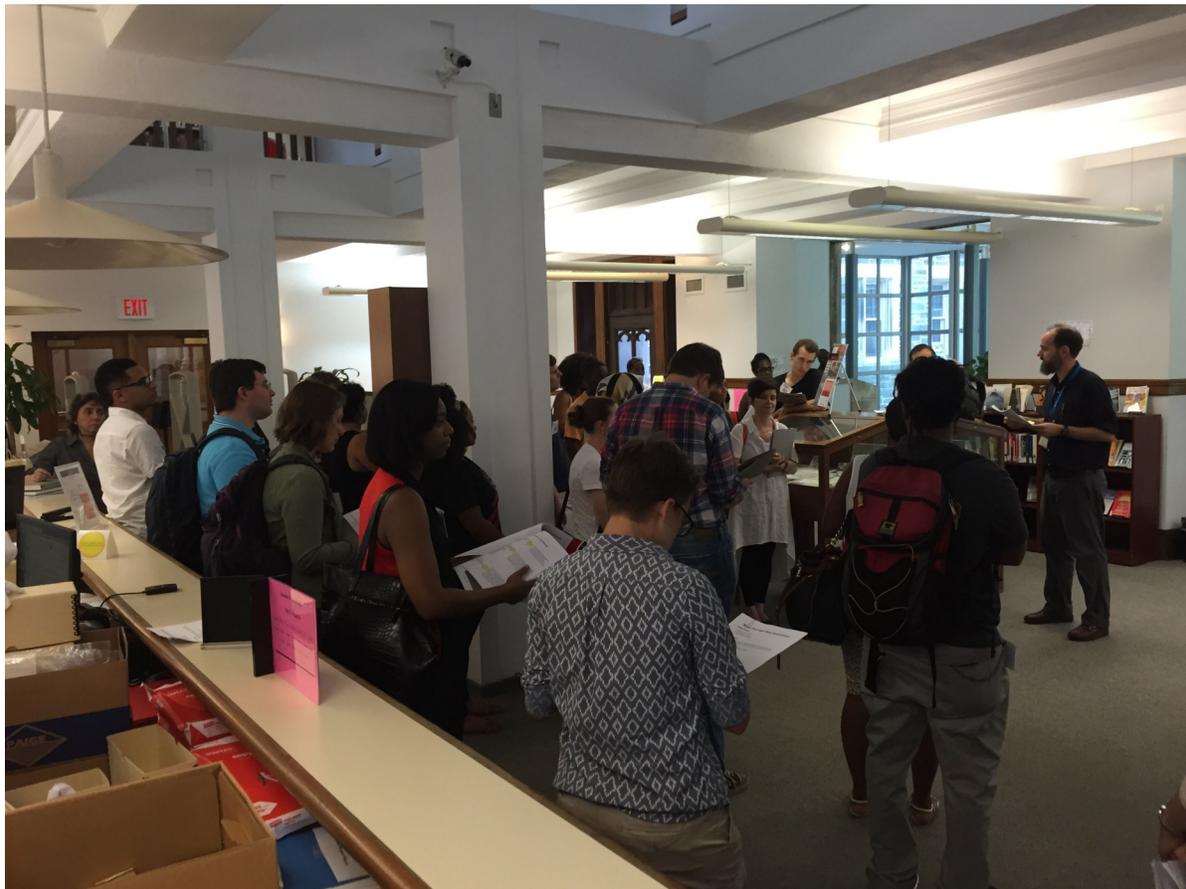
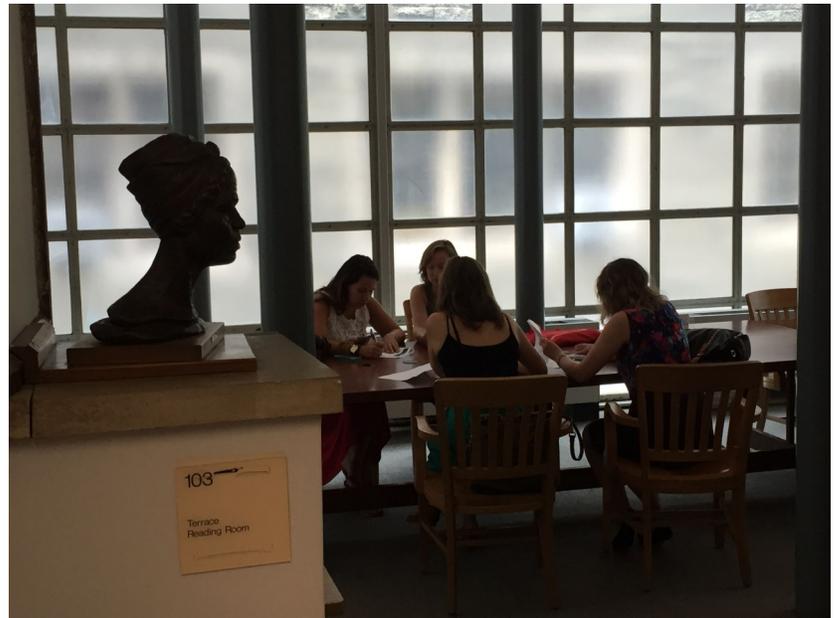
I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to the amazing Burke staff. Please keep reading to learn more about our productive year!

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Library Orientation

The Burke Library welcomed the new students of Union Theological Seminary in August a little differently than in years past. This year's welcoming library tours embraced active learning and had the students join teams to roam the library and participate in a scavenger hunt.

The members of the team that was able to answer the most questions correctly in the time allotted picked from a selection of theological books as their prize.



Library Instruction

The Burke Library's instructional program continues to grow. During the Fall and Winter, numerous class sessions were held using materials from the Burke's special collections. Burke staff engaged undergraduate students from Columbia and Barnard and graduate students from Union Theological Seminary. Several workshops were offered as well, ranging in topics from getting started with research to using bibliographic citation tools such as Zotero.

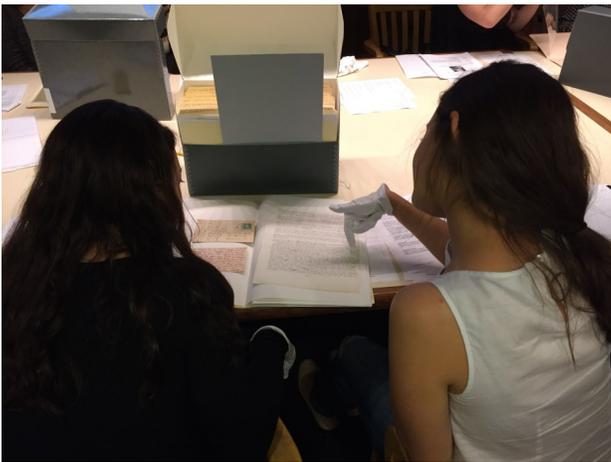


Image of students working with archives from Najam Haider's, Assistant Professor of Religion at Barnard, course.



Image of students working with archives from Joseph Howley's, Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Columbia, course



Image of students working with archives from Sarah Azaransky's, Assistant Professor of Social Ethics at Union, course.

Getting to Know: Myongyee Patricia Jin

Myong joined the Burke team as Collection Services Assistant in August 2015. Prior to this position, she worked as library assistant at the Arthur W. Diamond Library at Columbia Law School. She has a BA in interdisciplinary studies from the University of Chicago and is currently pursuing an MS in library and information science at Long Island University. In addition, Myong has completed graduate courses at NYU and Indiana University and workshops at the Center for Book Arts (NYC).

What brought you to a career in librarianship?

When I was 9, I set up what books and videos I owned as a circulating collection, and signed up my friends and brother for cards to my library. I guess I thought the materials were worthwhile and wanted to fulfill their potential for wide use or enjoyment. A career in librarianship was a matter of course.

What is your favorite thing about working at the Burke so far? This could be a collection, a single item, anything!

I do some printmaking and bookbinding, so I love happening upon interesting printed illustrations or bindings as I browse the stacks or in the course of my work. I've found the Burke's collections lend themselves to this very well - not just in the rare books and manuscripts, where it's easily expected, but in the general collections too, I've come across some delightful specimens.

Describe yourself in three words.

Bookish, Deft, Museful .

What are you currently reading (or listening to)?

I'm currently reading *Mouse Guard*, a comic book series featuring mice with capes and swords. Incidentally, I'm also reading *Citizen Canine*, which looks at the changing legal status of animals in society. More frequently, I do read things not involving animals.



#LoveInAction

#LOVE IN ACTION

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

"NEVER FORGET
THAT JUSTICE IS
WHAT LOVE LOOKS
LIKE IN PUBLIC."
- Cornel West

#LoveInAction is a
project conceived by the
2014/2015 Student
Senate of Union
Theological Seminary.

THE BURKE LIBRARY
At Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway at 123rd St.
New York, NY 10027
(212) 851-5606
<http://library.columbia.edu/burke>

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES /
INFORMATION SERVICES

BENJAMIN VAN DYNE's examination of student-led activism has taken him through a journey in the UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ARCHIVES. Using the archives, Benjamin has inspected the many ways in which Union students have voiced and documented their dissent to injustices affecting both students and society at large. This will correspond with UTS's Union Days.

Benjamin's display cases will be on view from October 5, 2015 to December 18, 2015 on the 1st floor of the Burke Library.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION. View and contribute original digital content that documents Union student activism efforts, or visit the website to browse images, documents, and audio/video materials related to activism in the Union community.

bit.ly/Love_In_Action

From October 5 to December 18, 2015, the Burke displayed student curator's, Benjamin Van Dyne's (MDiv 2017), examination of student-led activism at Union. Benjamin inspected the many ways in which Union students have voiced and documented their dissent to injustices affecting both students and the society at large. Benjamin also helped to organize and moderate a panel discussion that took place during Union Days on October 9th about student-led activism at Union that included alumnae Gail Hovey (class of '65) and current students Medina Jones, and Wesley Morris.



"I found that the people in a Negro church in a small town in Alabama had more to teach me about the Gospel than I them."

John Collins (BD '61), summer assistant to Rev. John E. Watts of Mobile, Alabama in 1960

"It is a strange thing when the church allows untruth to go unabated and even provides sanctuary for it."

Jane Stenbridge (Attended UTS 1959-60), summer intern for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in 1960

"Real understanding requires genuine confrontation."

James A. Forbes, Jr. (BD '62), 1962 intern at Olin T. Binkley Memorial Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina

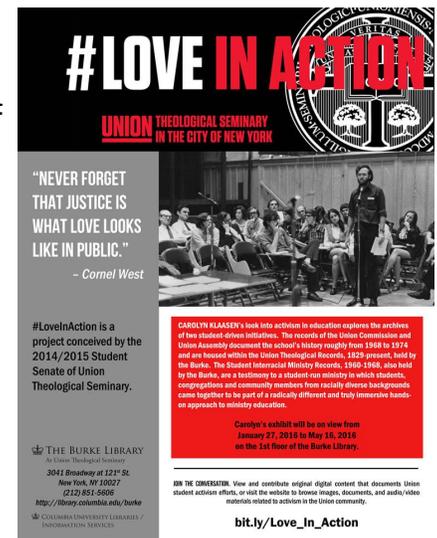
"Then he called me a -----...and also a Communist and a Bolshhevik and a mulatto."

Charles Helms (BD '62), who participated in a sit-in during his 1960 summer internship in Greenville, South Carolina

"The warm and sincere reaction which I received helped to restore my faith in the ability of human beings to meet people on the basis of the 'Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.'"

unidentified SIM participant

The third and final installment of #LoveInAction (phase one) opened on January 27th and will remain on display in the Burke Library until May 27th. This exhibit was curated by PhD candidate, Carolyn Klassen, and looks at activism in education. Carolyn explored the archives of the Union Commission and Union Assembly, and the Student Interracial Ministry, which were student-driven. The records of the Union Commission and Union Assembly document the school's history from 1968 to 1974 and are housed at the Burke Library within the Union Theological Records, 1829-. The Student Interracial Ministry Records, 1960-1968, also held by the Burke, are a testimony to a student-run ministry in which students, congregations and community members from racially diverse backgrounds came together to be part of a radically different and truly immersive hands-on approach to ministry education.



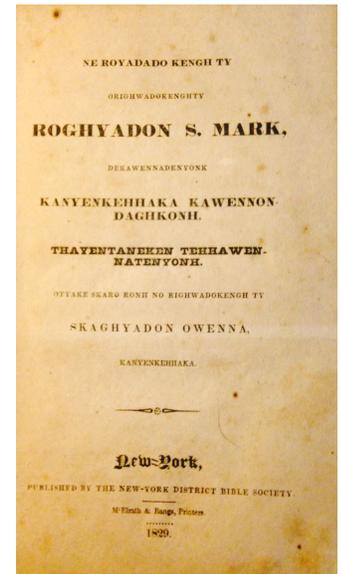
To celebrate the opening of this exhibit the Burke Library hosted a panel of Union alumni/ae moderated by Carolyn, "We Cannot Remain Silent": Life Stories of International Human Rights Activism. This panel was organized collaboratively with Columbia's Center for Human Rights Documentation & Research and featured three Union alumni/ae: Larry Cox, Co-Director of Kairos: The Center for Religions, Rights and Social Justice and former Executive Director of Amnesty International USA; Gail Hovey, former member of the Southern Africa Committee, American Committee on Africa; and Rev. William Wipfler, former Director of the Latin American Department of the National Council of Churches. The entire panel was recorded and is available online: <https://youtu.be/6JSpQfGCen8>

Stay turned as we are in the planning stages for phase two of #LoveInAction!

New Acquisitions

Rare Books/Pamphlets

Ne royadado kengh ty orighwadokenghty roghyadon S. Mark, dekawennadenyonk kanyenkehaka kawennon daghkonh, thayentaneken tehhawen-natenyonh = the Gospel according to St. Mark, translated into the Mohawk tongue, by Captain Brant. New-York : Published by the New-York District Bible Society, 1829, ([New York] : McElrath & Bangs, printers).



Okodakiciye wakan odowan qa okna ahiyayapi kta ho kin = hymnal with tunes and chants according to the use of the Episcopal Church in the missions among the Dakotas of the Missionary District of South Dakota. Sioux Falls, S.D. : Midwest-Beach, 1951, 1961 printing.

Saulteux hymnal = Anicinapemowining anamie-nakamonan. Saint Boniface, Man. : Oblate Fathers, 1942.

Databases

Vocabulary for the Study of Religion

The Vocabulary for the Study of Religion online database offers a unique overview of critical terms in the study of religion. This English dictionary covers a broad spectrum of theoretical topics used in the academic study of religion, including those from adjacent disciplines such as sociology, anthropology, historiography, theology, philology, literary studies, psychology, philosophy, cultural studies, and political sciences.

Welcome, Rebecca Nieto!



We welcome our latest staff member, Rebecca Nieto, Project Archivist, to the Burke Library team. Rebecca will be processing many of the collections within the Union Theological Seminary archive. This project is funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, as well as private donations. Rebecca holds a BA in English Literature from Oberlin College and an MLIS in Archival Studies from McGill University. She was a Society of American Archivists Mosaic Scholar, an American Library Association Spectrum/ProQuest Scholar, and an Association of Research Libraries Diversity Scholar. She was a co-founder of the Society of American Archivists student chapter at McGill. Prior to joining the Burke, Rebecca worked as an Archivist Assistant at the Thomas J. Watson Library in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. She also served as a Reference Librarian at Bank Street College of Education in New York and as a Project Archives Assistant at McGill University Archives in Montreal. During her time as a student at Oberlin, Rebecca worked in the Clarence Ward Art Library and the Mudd Library. She is extremely interested in the materials specific to theological archives and in working within the broader Columbia community during her tenure here.

Getting to Know: Karen Zhou

Karen Zhou joined the Burke team in August 2015 as Burke Circulation & Reserves Assistant. Karen is a recent Columbia graduate (BA in Art History and Archaeology). She is a Collective Member of Books through Bars, a non-profit organization that distributes educational materials to prisoners in seven states.



What brought you to the Burke Library?

I graduated last May with a bachelor's in art history, and I am considering library school. Through my job here, I've enjoyed seeing how libraries are important resources to knowledge communities.

What is your favorite thing about working here so far? This could be a collection, a single item, anything!

bell hooks in *Where We Stand: Class Matters* writes, "Conversation is not a place of meaningless chitchat. It is the place where everything must be learned-- the site of all epistemology." I've enjoyed learning through conversing with patrons, students, and colleagues about their readings and lived experiences.

Describe yourself in three words.

Queens, floating, hunger .

What are you currently reading (or listening to)?

For better or worse, I'm in the habit of juggling several readings. I'm reading *Giovanni's Room*, *Black Against Empire: The History and Politics of the Black Panther Party*, and *Playing the Whore: the Work of Sex Work*.

New Digital Exhibits

Construction and Evolution of Union Theological Seminary Campus



This exhibit features images from a small collection of photographs documenting the construction of Union in the Morningside Heights neighborhood of New York City. As the third (and current) location of the Seminary, the buildings were constructed from 1908-1910. The physical collection is housed at the Burke Library and the online collection can be found here: <https://exhibitions.cul.columbia.edu/exhibits/show/uts>.

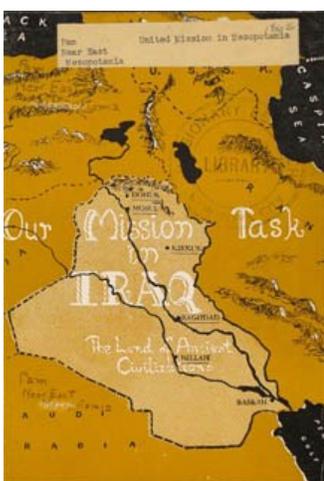
A Church is Born: Church of South India Inauguration

The unification of the Church of South India in September 1947, depicted here through a filmstrip and commentary, is considered one of the most important in the Church Union movement. For the first time after centuries of division, churches with various ministries were brought together in a collective Episcopal Church. The reconciliation it reached between Anglicans and other denominations on the doctrine of apostolic succession is often cited as a landmark in the ecumenical movement. This exhibit depicts the road to unification in South India: <https://exhibitions.cul.columbia.edu/exhibits/show/church>.



Newly Digitized!

Missionary Research Library Pamphlet Digitization Project



The Burke Library has been collaborating with Columbia University Libraries' preservation and reformatting division to digitize portions of the Burke's Missionary Research Library (MRL) pamphlet collection. The MRL was established by John R. Mott and opened in June 1914, with seed money from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. By documenting the history and culture of many regions in the world, the MRL served as an important educational resource for missionaries, social service agencies, and scholars. The MRL includes published pamphlets and the archives of missionaries and organizational records. As of April 30, 2016, approximately 1,790 pamphlets have been digitized. Digital versions of the pamphlets can be accessed via Internet Archive (<https://archive.org/details/columbiamlpamphlets>) and Princeton Theological Seminary's Theological Commons (<http://commons.ptsem.edu/mrl>). Digitized pamphlets are featured on the Burke's Twitter account on "Missionary Mondays." The project will continue over time.

Saying Goodbye



Eun Ja Lee first came to the Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary in 1972. Seven library directors, five Union Theological Seminary presidents, and eleven circulation supervisors later, Eun Ja has retired. The circulation desk will never be the same. Reflecting on her 43 years, Eun Ja will remember most the amazing people she has met being on the library's front lines, the strong friendships she has forged, and the many happy memories she's shared with fellow staff members.

We can't thank Eun Ja enough for all of the work she has done while at the Burke. She will be missed!



Saying Goodbye



We were very sad for Brigette Kamsler, Project Archivist, who left the Burke Library team in November 25, 2015. In the four years that she was here, Brigette worked tirelessly to make the archives held by the Burke accessible to researchers. During her tenure, which was funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, she focused on processing the Missionary Research Library and William Adams Brown archival collections. Thanks to



Brigette's work there is now a growing body of scholarship being created from these archival collections. To achieve all of this, she implemented a successful and robust library school internship program for archival processing and supervised and mentored 14 interns. In addition, Brigette initiated Burke's social media presence on Twitter, Facebook, and the library's blog, which now go beyond archival processing to highlight other collections and services at the Burke Library.

New Research Study

Ithaca S+R Study on Research Support Services for Faculty in Religious Studies

The Burke Library is conducting a study on the research support needs of religious and theological studies faculty at Columbia University, Union Theological Seminary, and Barnard College. Members of the project team are Matthew Baker (Burke Collection Services Librarian), Nisa Bakkalbasi (Columbia Libraries Assessment Coordinator), and Beth Bidlack (Burke Director). With funding from lead sponsor the American Theological Library Association (ATLA), as well as the Society for Biblical Literature (SBL) and the American Academy of Religion (AAR), the Ithaca S+R project brings together local research teams from eighteen higher education institutions. Each team attended a two-day workshop on how to conduct interviews and analyze and code interview transcripts.

At the end of 2016, Ithaca S+R will write a report based on an analysis of aggregated data from the eighteen research teams. Each team, including the Burke team, will write a local report. We hope that the results of the study will help to improve research support services for faculty who use the Burke Library. For further information on the project, see the Ithaca S+R blog (<http://www.sr.ithaka.org/blog/religious-studies-project-launch-and-training-workshop/>).

Comments/Questions

Have a comment/question/concern on this or future newsletters?

Would you like to receive this digitally (and in **full color!**)?

Please contact Elizabeth Call by phone or email:

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Burke Library News

Academic Year 2015/16

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

Columbia University Libraries

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