The past academic year has been an eventful one at the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. We expanded our already strong instruction program by adding two new classrooms and hiring a new Instruction & Outreach Librarian, allowing us to reach and teach more students. Our Wake Forest Fellow helped us recast our ZSR Ambassadors program, and we now have a dynamic group of undergraduates helping us with programming and events. We created a new library team, Digital Initiatives & Scholarly Communications (DISC), to help us launch our expanded digital scholarship services. And we forged a new campus partnership with the expanded Teaching & Learning Collaborative (TLC), which will move into the library this fall and join DISC in offering research and teaching innovations for our faculty. In January, we started outreach and programming for Wake Downtown, and we look forward to helping the programs located there succeed. We also enjoyed our best fundraising year ever and reached the $4 million mark towards our Wake Will Lead goal.

I am grateful to the talented and dedicated ZSR faculty and staff for helping make 2016-2017 such an outstanding year. As you will see in this report, our success also stems from working with others on campus. From Student Life to my fellow deans, we strive to broadly engage our campus partners to support the teaching, research and information needs of our students and faculty.

Tim Pyatt
Dean, Z. Smith Reynolds Library

2016-2017 Program Highlights

ZSR Ambassadors Re-launch. Over 80 students applied last fall to join the ZSR Ambassadors, who help promote library services and resources to students in residence halls, classes and beyond. Sixteen underclassmen and two seniors were selected. The group also serves as an advisory group for the Dean.

The library and the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) hosted ZSR en la Noche with the band West End Mambo last October. Over 120 students joined us for wonderful live music and delicious food.

In November, ZSR hosted DADA 100, a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of Cabaret Voltaire and the Dada art movement. Faculty and students gave a series of performances and talks throughout the library as part of the celebration.
ZSR Library teamed up with the Writing Center, Library Partners Press, WFU Office of Personal and Career Development and Wake Forest University Press in November to host WaFoWriMo (Wake Forest Writing Month). In the spirit of NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month), WaFoWriMo was a series of fun and engaging workshops to promote and encourage writing projects of all shapes and sizes.

In February, ZSR held its first Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon workshop to teach students how to edit and improve Wikipedia pages. The participants researched and wrote about individuals who do not have much presence on the internet despite their impact on society.

The ZSR Ambassadors planned and held Harry Potter Clue Night in March, transforming the library into Hogwarts. Over 70 students spent their Friday evening solving a Harry Potter themed mystery in a range of decorated spaces throughout the building.

In addition to these programs, the Library Lecture Series hosted 10 presentations throughout the academic year. Wake the Library continued to supply students with a midnight snack break to reduce stress during finals. The Dean’s List Gala, held in the ZSR Atrium, enjoyed its fourth year of honoring student excellence. The eighth annual Senior Showcase celebrated the research of four outstanding undergraduates.
Construction for our two new classrooms was completed in time for the fall semester. On the fourth level of the Wilson Wing, a 20-seat classroom was built adjacent to Reference using pre-fabricated glass wall panels. On the sixth level of the Reynolds Wing, a 20-seat classroom, named for Jenny Puckett ('71), was added next to the Special Collections & Archives Research Room.

ZSR leadership spent a good portion of the spring in planning for the summer renovation of the sixth level of the Wilson Wing. Preparations included shifting 133,000 volumes from the sixth level to other locations in the building to create room for the new Digital Scholarship Collaboration Suite as well as for the expanded Teaching & Learning Collaborative (TLC). When completed, this project will pair two key faculty support operations and will increase faculty-dedicated library space. The Digital Scholarship Collaboration Suite will include training space, a seminar room, assignable project rooms, and offices for the faculty and staff who support this work. They will also share an experimental classroom and recording studio with the TLC. The Digital Scholarship Collaboration Suite was funded by gifts received through the ZSR portion of the Wake Will Lead campaign.

Thanks to a generous gift from John Cooper ('72) and his wife, Lynne Eickholt ('74), planning began to transform one of the iconic spaces in the Reynolds Wing into a student study and research area that we will call the Scholars Commons. The large fourth floor reading room overlooking the Atrium will be converted from a space with dated furniture and little access to power outlets to a productive work and study area with diverse ergonomic furniture and access to power at every seat. Future plans include adding a digital display that lists all of the Wake Forest students who have received Rhodes, Marshall, Truman and similar scholarships.
The University is moving steadily toward its $1 billion Wake Will Lead campaign goal, having raised more than $700 million to invest in students, faculty and capital projects. ZSR enjoyed its best fund year ever, receiving $547,000 in cash gifts and over $1.75 million in pledged commitments. We reached the $4 million mark for the Wake Will Lead campaign in cash and pledges.

A number of ZSR-themed regional events contributed to our success this year, including events and dinners in Raleigh, Charlotte, Charleston, Washington, D.C. and in Winston-Salem. ZSR Council of Advocates members helped host these events and helped make them possible.

The Council of Advocates met twice last year with the October meeting held in the new Jenny Puckett classroom. Prior to the April meeting, ZSR held its first donor appreciation dinner at Bistro 34 on campus. The Council met the following day in one of the new Wake Downtown classrooms and learned about how the library will support students and faculty working at our new campus location.
Focus on Assessment

In this digital age of libraries, time-honored means of assessment, such as how often a book is checked out or how often someone enters the building, are no longer accurate measures of success. Today’s library assessment is a continuing process, using a variety of methods to evaluate and measure how well the library supports its mission. Ongoing assessment provides library faculty and staff with the necessary data needed to improve services, identify changing patterns in users’ needs and promote library resources and services.

After several years of assessing student satisfaction and needs, this year we focused on how faculty engage with and perceive the library. Our survey sought Reynolds Campus faculty perspectives on a range of topics. Key findings include:

- WFU faculty are about as comfortable with the transition from print to electronic resources as their peers at similar universities.
- WFU faculty often differ substantially by discipline and rank in their digital research and data preservation and management practices. To provide proper support, the library must differentiate and tailor services.
- Across disciplines and ranks, faculty uniformly assign a high level of importance to the role of the library in paying for resources.
- Science faculty and higher-ranked faculty think that WFU does not give enough support to help them adopt new pedagogies or instructional approaches that incorporate digital technology, nor does WFU reward the integration of these.
- WFU faculty have less satisfaction with library spaces including space to work and to stow personal belongings.

ZSR is using the survey results to gain insight into how WFU faculty members work in a rapidly changing and increasingly digital environment. The addition of digital scholarship services and our emerging partnership with the Teaching & Learning Collaborative will help address some of the concerns raised by our faculty.