People First
Z Smith Reynolds Library
2017-2018 Annual Report
In her senior oration delivered last Founders Day, Allison Thompson ('18), spoke about how libraries have been an anchor for her as she looks for place and belonging. After arriving at Wake, she described ZSR to her mother as follows: “I was immediately transfixed by the inner workings of ZSR. I was entranced by the way the light of the vibrant sunrises and sunsets bounced off every surface in the atrium... In the library, I discovered a space that cultivated my curiosity without restrictions...” We are glad that Allison found a welcoming, supportive, and creative space in ZSR. This year we updated our mission statement to reflect these values as we work to inspire learning, advance knowledge, and build community at Wake Forest University. We accomplish this by providing resources, opportunities, and spaces that connect students, faculty, and staff to information, each other, and the wider world.

Programs like Wake the Library, which offers food and stress reducing activities during finals, or the Thanksgiving Weekend Lunch, that supplies a meal for students remaining on campus, are examples of ways we try build and support community at Wake. We also celebrate student success by hosting Undergraduate Research Day and the annual Dean’s List Gala. But ZSR is more than a place -- from making dormitory house calls to holding office hours at Wake Downtown, we also strive to be ZSR Everywhere. We even delivered our first books to Wake students spending the semester in Washington, D.C., as part of the Wake Washington program and sent a librarian to Beijing to assist with international student orientation.

We also think beyond Wake Forest about the needs of our changing library profession. One of the biggest challenges we face is diversity. Over 84% of the academic librarians in the southeast are white, non-Hispanic. Nationally, 74% of library and information science students are white, non-Hispanic. To help address this situation, ZSR launched a pilot Diversity Fellowship program this summer. Our goal is to provide opportunities for current or recently graduated library and information students from under-represented populations to gain professional experience as Visiting Librarians at ZSR. In turn, these young professionals bring new perspectives and ideas to ZSR.

Finally, I want to thank all who made gifts to ZSR over the past year. Your donations allow ZSR to provide innovative spaces and programs to the Wake community. Your support makes the difference between a good library and a great library. To help us sustain and build on our successful programs, this year we will create a new plan for the library to span the next three years. We will review what works well, what could work better, and consider what is the next big thing in academic libraries. We want the Class of 2022 and beyond to be captivated with ZSR, much like Allison was when she first entered the Library.
Special Collections and Archives collaborated with the Piedmont Opera to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the U.S. entrance into World War I with an exhibit, “Testaments of War: Literature, Art, and Memoir,” and a performance of WWI era song. Special Collections also created a pop-up exhibit of WWI materials from our collections at the Stevens Performing Arts Center during the Piedmont Opera’s performance of “Silent Night,” an opera is based on historical events and depicts a spontaneous 1915 Christmas truce between combatants on the Western front.

Performance artist Tim Youd brought his “100 Novels” project to ZSR last fall as part of his residency at Wake Forest. While sitting at the ZSR welcome desk, Youd re-typed John Ehle’s The Land Breakers on the same 1947 typewriter Ehle used. The author and his wife, actress Rosemary Harris, visited Youd while he was performing in ZSR.

Bestselling author Emily Giffin (’94) highlighted a stellar Library Lectures Series that also included James Dodson, co-author of A Golfer’s Life with Arnold Palmer.
On Friday, February 9th, 24 students pulled an “all nighter” in ZSR working on an essay, poem, or short story in the second Writers Camp held by ZSR in collaboration with the Writing Center and with support from Thrive. A 25th student participated while riding a bus overnight. Librarians and Writing Tutors were available throughout the night to assist the students. Their literary efforts were compiled into a book, Famous First Words @ Writers’ Camp, now available in print and online.

In partnership with the Graduate Schools for both the Reynolda and Bowman Gray campuses, the Library hosted two Thesis Boot Camps for graduate students during Fall and Spring Breaks. Our first event, during Fall Break, focused on tools and skills for writing their thesis. The Spring Break event, called Shut Up and Write, focused on providing participants uninterrupted time to write.

In a ceremony held in the Library’s historic reading room on March 12th, Senator Richard Burr (’78) signed an agreement to transfer his congressional papers to the Special Collections & Archives. These records will provide rich primary sources for our students and faculty and join the records of other congressional leaders including Donna Edwards (’80), Horace Robinson Kornegay (’47), and C.B. Deane (’23).

ZSR Library and the C.G. O’Kelly Library at Winston-Salem State University teamed up to host a Human Library event at Wake Downtown on March 23rd. A “Rethinking Community” grant allowed us to shuttle students from both campuses to Wake Downtown for the event where we had fourteen human “books” available for checkout and great conversation. Over 90 students from both campuses participated.

Last May, twelve Wake Forest faculty participated in a weeklong Digital Humanities Summer Institute. Lead by ZSR Digital Scholarship faculty, participants explored digital humanities tools and methods for research, including text mining, digital mapping, and online exhibits building.

Each month during the academic year, the Winston-Salem community was invited to Hop into History at Hoots Roller Bar and Wise Man Brewing to see pop-up exhibits and talk about local university history. These events were organized by the ZSR Special Collections and Archives in collaboration with the Alumni Office, Reynolda House, and Winston-Salem State University.

The Council on Library and Information Resources awarded the ZSR Special Collections and Archives $50,000 for its project: Documenting the Evangelical Movement in the United States, Digitizing Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Open-Reel Audiotapes, 1957-1980. The tapes document the American evangelical movement and contain presentations by prominent Southern Baptist pastors and church representatives at evangelical conferences and annual meetings of the Convention.

Diversity Fellowships: In support of efforts to diversify the library profession, ZSR created two summer fellowships for current or recent library science graduate students from underrepresented racial or ethnic minorities. The two visiting assistant librarians selected gained experience in outreach and instruction as well as in special collections and archives.
“ZSR IS THE HEART OF CAMPUS, AND THE ZSR LIBRARIANS BRING THE ENERGY, SUPPORT AND PLANNING TO MAKE ZSR THE EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY CENTER THAT IT IS.”
The Scholars Commons, a renovated space made possible thanks to a generous gift from John Cooper (’72) and Lynne Eickholt (’74), opened in September. This large 4th floor reading room overlooks the atrium and offers productive work and study areas with ergonomic furniture and access to power at every seat.

The Digital Scholarship Collaboration Commons and the expanded Teaching & Learning Collaborative opened on the 6th floor of the Wilson wing at the end of September. This move pairs two faculty support operations and also addresses some of the concerns about lack of library space for faculty uncovered by the survey we conducted last year.

With approval from the Board of Trustees, we worked with Perkins+Will, Blum Construction, and Facilities to create a plan for renovating the original Reynolds wing of the Library. Goals for this renovation include upgrading infrastructure (HVAC, electrical, and fire suppression) while improving egress and user spaces throughout the building.

We began preparations for a new addition to offsite storage space that will accommodate an additional 250,000 volumes.
As the Wake Will Lead campaign continues to enjoy success, so does ZSR. For the second year in a row, ZSR had its best year ever in cash gifts, receiving over $693,000, a 22% increase over last year. The leadership of ZSR Council of Advocates has played a key role in the continued growth of our fundraising program. In addition to holding two meetings on campus, Council members hosted events in Boston, Connecticut, and Winston-Salem. They also recommended starting a new giving club for the Library, the Friends of ZSR. The Friends Club will be open to alumni, the greater campus community, local retirement communities, and the greater Winston-Salem community. Benefits of joining will include borrowing privileges, invitations to ZSR events, and regular updates from the Dean.

In recognition of the Council’s giving and participation, it was renamed the ZSR Board of Visitors after their spring meeting.

“To me, there was no better way to give back to the entire student body than to donate to ZSR. The library represents the vast knowledge available to members of the University community.”
Students accessed items on Course Reserves 28,563 times during the 17/18 academic year. 1,098,855 people visited the Library last year. 8,959 students participated in 400 instruction sessions. Special Collections & Archives holds nearly 2,400 collections, 7.7 terabytes of digital materials, and 9,300 linear feet of materials.

FY 2018 COLLECTION EXPENDITURES

- **Shipping**: $9,918.77 (0%)
- **Preservation**: $244,078.96 (0%)
- **Print**: $993,269.41 (18%)
- **Electronic**: $4,604,764.70 (82%)