There are four Ionic pillars that support the portico of the original Andrew Carnegie library building at Guilford. These are solid and substantial, and can be seen and touched. Then there are the three metaphorical pillars of the Hege Library as the foundational components of Hege as the College’s Academic Commons. These are Library and Learning Technologies, the Friends Historical Collection and College Archives, and the Guilford College Art Gallery.

The Friends of the Library hosted a gala in the spring of 2018 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the addition to the Library in 1989 that established its name in honor of principal donors and distinguished alumni H. Curt ’56 and Patricia S. ’57 Hege. When Hege Library was dedicated in 1989, the stage was set for the Academic Commons through intentional blending of the Library, the Friends Historical Collection, and the Art Gallery, bringing the College’s literary, historical, and visual resources together into one space. As Library and Learning Technologies, Hege’s traditional library services now are blended to encompass a full range of academic information and technology support.

The Friends Historical Collection and College Archive make a particular contribution to the maintenance of Guilford’s Quaker heritage. As a resource for teaching documentary research, the Friends Historical Collection acquires, organizes, preserves and makes available, not only to the College but to the wider community of researchers, materials, both published and unpublished, related to the history of the Religious Society of Friends in the southeast and Guilford College.

Also, as the “scholarly crossroads” of the Guilford campus, the library offers the ideal location for the Guilford College Art Gallery, which has, as part of its mission the goal of promoting interdisciplinary approaches to the study and appreciation of art. Original works of art are displayed in galleries and study areas throughout the library and other campus buildings. As we celebrated the Hege’s and other major donors’ prescient foresight at the gala we introduced the future vision for Hege as the Academic Commons.

The Academic Commons

Director of Hege Library and Learning Technologies, Suzanne Bartels, describes the Hege Library Academic Commons as a symbol of Guilford’s academic excellence and institutional distinctiveness in furthering innovation through collaboration. As a dynamic learning environment, it fosters a culture of scholarly exploration and experimentation, promotes creativity and innovation, and provides information and technology resources to advance Guilford’s unique liberal arts experience. The Academic Commons now includes the following academic support programs and services, building upon the three pillars and enhanced by the new Teaching, Learning, and Research Collaboratory on the second level:

• Research and Creative Endeavors
• Faculty Development
• The Honors Program
• Academic Support and Accessibility Resources
• Tutoring and Writing (delivered through the Learning Commons)
• Accessibility Resource Center
• Institutional Research & Effectiveness.

The last issue of the Newsletter featured the three resident faculty members, Heather See Pillars, Page 3

FROM THE ART GALLERY

We have a terrific schedule of exhibitions and events to present over the next few months, and we invite you to bring a friend to join you for visit to the gallery in 2018. Please help us spread the word about Guilford’s excellent and diverse exhibitions, collections and programs. As always, admission is free and open to the public.

The main gallery is currently featuring the 12th Art Faculty Biennial Exhibition through February 28. We’re particularly excited to present a talk by Katherine Calvin, visiting lecturer in art history, and two panel discussions, in conjunction with this show. The second panel, titled “Relationship as Form,” is the last in this series, and it will be held Thursday, February 22, from 7 to 8:30 pm. It will feature ten regional and national contributors to the new book, Creative Collaboration in Art Practice, Research, and Pedagogy, edited by Guilford’s associate academic dean and associate professor of art history M. Kathryn Shields, and Sunny Spillane, assistant professor of art education at UNCG.

Guilford’s Every Campus a Refuge (ECAR) initiative Exhibit is currently on view in the glass cases and is described elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter.

In March, two new exhibits will go on display in support of the inaugural “Journalist as Witness: Politics, Protests and Displaced Peoples” conference and multimedia workshop being organized by Cheryl Hatch, visiting assistant professor for English. The main gallery will feature “Lakota Resistance: the Bison, the Horse, and the River,” an exhibition of photographs from Pine Ridge and Standing Rock, by Richard Tsong-Taatarii, photographer for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Photographs by professor Cheryl Hatch, an independent journalist and documentary photographer with extensive international experience, will be displayed in the Robert C. Ketner vitrines. Both exhibitions will remain on view through May 5.

Stressed, by Charlie Tefft
A VISIT TO THE LIBRARY

After the recent return of students to the campus after vacation, I visited Hege Library to check out what was going on and found it a beehive of activity. In the Friends Historical Collection (FHC), I found Jim Fernandes, husband of President Jane Fernandes, busy at work identifying photographs from the College archives. A volunteer for the Guilford College online images project, Jim, known around campus as the First Dude, was at a computer viewing a group of scanned photos and identifying the "who, what, where, when" as much as possible. Jim said he has found Alex Stoen's 1987 history of the College "Guilford College: On the Strength of 150 Years, " to be invaluable in aiding his endeavors.

As Jim and I were talking with Gwen Gosney Erickson, the FHC Librarian and College Archivist, in her first-year student assistant Anna Honer with a pile of folders. Anna had just been scanning student theses for the Guilford College Thesis Project, an ambitious work in progress to transform over 5,000 theses, starting in 1898 and up to present day, into digital format so they can be made available for research as part of the College archives. A senior thesis was a requirement for graduation from the 1920s to 1968.

I then ventured my way to the Art Gallery and saw director and curator Terry Hammond with another student worker, senior Nara Seymour, busy hanging a new exhibit in the glass cases in the hall. Terry explained that this new exhibit includes expressions of Guilford’s successful Every Campus a Refuge (ECAR) initiative, founded by associate professor of English Diya Abdo. The exhibit will be on view through March 4. The artwork on display has been produced by individuals with deep connections to ECAR. Alumna Laura Todd ‘16 double majored in English and Religious Studies; knowing her to be a gifted painter, Diya asked Laura to paint refugees “moments of arrival” for use in ECAR’s public media. Ali Al-Khasrachi, an artist and calligraphist from Iraq who came to Greensboro as a refugee in early 2017 and was hosted on Guilford’s campus with his wife and three children for eight months through ECAR, has ten calligraphic paintings on view and photographs taken by two other families hosted on Guilford’s campus through the ECAR program round out the display. These families, both from East Africa (hosted for 5 months each), participated in Guilford alumna, renowned artist, and refugee advocate Molly Gochman’s Red Sand Project. Self-styled and self-taken, these images show the family members using the red sand around their home. A reception for this exhibit and music recital by the Triad Tapestry Children’s Chorus, will be held on Tuesday, February 16, at 6 p.m. in the Carnegie Room. (Admission is free, but donations in support of ECAR are kindly requested.)

I popped in for a quick visit with Library Director Suzanne Bartels. We talked about our upcoming Friends of the Library board meeting for a bit until she had to go off to a meeting.

I then visited the information desk at the front entrance and found Robin Weavil, Library Administrative Assistant; Liz Wade, Access and Information Services Librarian; Meg Hinson, Experience Design Librarian, and Tabitha Mocherman, student assistant. Together, Liz and Meg manage a student staff of over 25, and library and digital media collections as a whole. Students assist in all manner of lending and information services, and special collection management projects. Liz’s responsibilities center on library systems administration and electronic resources management, while Meg focuses on the user experience in general, and the support of the Experience Design (XD) program, which includes oversight of XD student internships. Meg currently is involved in the design and development of Hege’s new maker suite “The Cube,” on the ground level of the Library. She just introduced the first of two mobile maker carts, with a textiles theme, and will be working this semester on the second cart, which will have a tech theme.

The FHC not only includes the College archives, but those of North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends, as well as many individual Friends Meetings in the state and elsewhere in the southeast. Before departing, I had a look at my ancestor, Nathan Hunt.

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While I didn’t get the opportunity to stop in on the 2nd floor of the library to see Digital Pedagogy and Scholarship Technologist Mika Davis and Instructional Technology Librarian Tierney Steelberg. I understand from Suzanne that the new Teaching, Learning, and Research Collaboratory is humming with activity, hosting classes, workshops, and other collaborative gatherings, keeping these two librarians, with Collab oversight and teaching responsibilities, very busy indeed. Mika’s responsibilities focus mainly on faculty development and instructional design support, while Tierney’s include oversight of the Academic and Creative Suite on the main level of the Library, where the STARS (Student Technology and Research Support) Desk and drop-in peer tutoring support are located.

My short visit to Hege was a fun and energizing experience indeed. - Hank Hackett

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