The summer temperatures in Providence were unusually mild this year, and the reading room at the JCB likewise gave the Library staff an unseasonable respite from the crowds that normally descend upon our collection during the busy summer research season. These are, nevertheless, exhilarating times at the John Carter Brown Library. Having nearly completed one year’s service as director and librarian, I can safely say that we are embarked on a series of exciting paths and are forging ahead on many fronts to take the Library into a new era. Over the course of the coming months, thanks to a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation, the JCB will be welcoming several groups of leading scholars, librarians, and digital specialists to offer strategic assessments of the Library’s programs and research infrastructure. Part of the Mellon grant involves launching a new set of pilot programs in indigenous studies—kicked-off with a lecture by Yale historian Ned Blackhawk and an interdisciplinary roundtable in mid-October (see opposite page for more details)—as well as programmatic activities in book history in February and a fantastic exhibition on “Subterranean Worlds” in March, inaugurating a four-year program on “The Four Elements” that will breathe new life into some of our under-appreciated collections relating to the environmental history of the Americas. Finally, in May, we will be holding a special reunion for which we will be inviting back former fellows and current Associates with an eye toward forging a new Association of Friends and Fellows of the JCB, celebrated with ample revelry, academic pomp, and a spirit of collaboration and camaraderie that is unique to this institution. Save the dates of May 1-3, 2015 for this exciting event, which will include a special dinner honoring Director and Librarian Emeritus Norman Fiering on Saturday, May 2.

Tempering these developments has been news of two sorrowful departures from our close-knit community. The first was that of David Parsons, a quietly passionate and much-beloved member of our Board of Governors, who died in May at the age of 75. His wise counsel and childlike enthusiasm for the collection will be sorely missed (see tribute on page 13). Even more recently, the Library was saddened to hear of yet another loss: Ladislaus von Hoffmann, a member of our Board of Governors from 1990 to 1999, who gave generously to the Library, and who passed away at the age of 87 on July 29.

Launching new initiatives while we bid farewell to stalwart supporters and friends may seem like contradictory impulses. But they are in fact natural stages in the life of any institution. As we look to the future, mindful of the important traditions the Library will always preserve, we will also—and necessarily—adapt the institution to changing circumstances and conditions, taking full advantage of new opportunities so that the JCB continues to serve its multiple constituencies and retains its stature as one of the leading resources for scholars in the humanities—and other disciplines—well into the future.

Neil Safier
Beatrice and Julio Mario Santo Domingo Director and Librarian
THE EARLIEST AMERICAS:
A NEW INITIATIVE IN INDIGENOUS STUDIES

The JCB owns one of the earliest printed maps to use the term “America,” but what does the collection hold related to even earlier human history in the Americas, that is, before 1492? The Earliest Americas initiative is meant to open a series of conversations about how the JCB can best acknowledge, encourage, and provide support for indigenous studies at Brown and beyond. Focused on the use of the Library’s scholarly resources and collections, the initiative seeks to inaugurate a dedicated space—through lectures, fellowships, symposia, publications, and digital platforms—to highlight new approaches being proposed by scholars of indigenous history, literature, language, and culture and to engage new scholarly and communitarian questions about the continents’ earliest inhabitants.

The Library will kick off the initiative on October 13 with a lecture by Yale historian Ned Blackhawk, who will discuss the central place of indigenous peoples in the history of the United States from the eighteenth century to the present. The following day, a group of historians, anthropologists, and indigenous activists will talk about their own research and future directions that the Library might support in a roundtable event. This series will celebrate the inauguration of special fellowships for junior and senior scholars of Amerindian history, encourage collaborations between the JCB and other libraries specializing in indigenous materials, and hopefully generate support for the idea that the Library have an ongoing, public engagement with this topic.

We will also hold a special screening of Oil and Water, a documentary film about the oil industry in Ecuador and its impact on indigenous peoples, on Sunday, October 12, at the Library’s fellows’ residence at 79 Charlesfield.

A FOCUS ON OUR INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES COLLECTION

One of the resources we hope to highlight through this initiative is the Library’s indigenous language collection, recently digitized and now available for scholars, activists, and indigenous peoples the world over. As Europeans engaged in the conquest of native peoples and attempted to eradicate their languages in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, missionaries and other emissaries were busy recording and documenting those languages. In some cases, these books and manuscripts are the only record of Amerindian languages we have. The JCB is fortunate to have one of the largest collections of these texts anywhere, and as of 2014, all of this material is available through digital facsimiles that are accessible through the Library’s Josiah catalog. By providing searchable access to the books in the JCB’s Indigenous Language collection, and providing a digital copy of the actual book for readers everywhere, the JCB hopes to encourage research into this extremely important field of Amerindian culture.

To access this bibliography, point your browser toward: www.brown.edu/Facilities/John_Carter_Brown_Library/ildb/index.php

Quahuílehua (identified as the month of February) and impersonator of the Aztec god Huiztilopochtli, Juan de Tovar, Historia de la bendición de los yndios (known as the Tovar Codex), [Mexico?], ca. 1585, manuscript with ink and watercolor on paper, written in Nahuatl, fols. 156v-157.

Background to text below:
Antonio Machoni, Arte y vocabulario de la lengua lule y tonocote, Madrid, 1732.
What is a university?” asks guest curator Jeremy Mumford (Department of History, Brown University) in his introduction to the Library’s current exhibition, Off to College: Higher Education in the Americas, 1551-1825. In answer, the visitor will find a selection of books, maps, and manuscripts related to higher education in the early Americas, from the founding of the first universities in the Spanish American colonies of Mexico and Peru in 1551 through to the creation of Harvard, Brown, and their peer institutions in the British colonies. All these institutions adhered to some extent to the liberal arts curriculum inherited from the middle ages, but what makes Professor Mumford’s question so interesting in the context of the New World, is the variety with which this tradition was implemented and adapted to local circumstances. From (largely unrealized) utopian ideals, to town-gown debates, to complaints about the food, the range of content will not be unfamiliar to students of academe today. Students at Brown should count themselves lucky, however, that they no longer have to write out by hand “a correct copy” of the

**A SAMPLING FROM THE EXHIBITION**

**COPYING OUT THE LAWS OF THE COLLEGE**

Nicholas Brown, Jr., The laws of the College in Providence in the state of Rhode Island enacted by the fellowship & approved by the Trustees of said College (Providence, July 30, 1783). Manuscript.

Rather self-referentially, Rule 3 of Brown’s College Rules stated: “No student shall be admitted to this College until he shall have written out a correct copy of the Laws of the College, or have otherwise obtained them, and had them signed by the President & one, or more, of the Tutors, as the Evidence of his admission, which copy he shall keep by him during his residence in College.” This copy is in the hand of Nicholas Brown, Jr., son and nephew of three of the College of Rhode Island’s founders, and its future benefactor. It was in recognition of his gifts that the college changed its name to Brown University in 1804.

**“THE ART OF BUFFOONERY IS NOT ONE OF THE LIBERAL ARTS”**

Andrew Croswell, Brief remarks on the satyrical drollery at Cambridge, last commencement day, Boston, 1771.

Since medieval times, commencement exercises had often included a comic interlude or farce. This critic, however, was disturbed by the comedy that had concluded Harvard’s commencement ceremony in 1771. In honor of the three professions which universities traditionally trained, the play had included a lawyer, a physician, and an over-zealous clergyman. This author was shocked that the commencement (held in church) had “made the House of God, to outdo the Play-houses, for vain laughter, and clapping;” and was horrified that young men preparing to enter the ministry themselves would mock the figure of the preacher. “The art of Buffoonery,” he protested, “is not one of the liberal arts… it ought to be nipped in the bud.”
“Laws of the College,” as Nicholas Brown, Jr., had to do in 1783 to be granted admission to the college that would later bear his name.

Off to College: Higher Education in the Americas, 1551-1825 will continue through October 25, 2014, in the MacMillan Reading Room. The exhibition can also be seen and read online in its entirety at www.jcb.org/education.

In conjunction with the exhibition, noted historian of education George Marsden (University of Notre Dame) will be at the Library on October 21 to talk about “The Old Learning, The New Light, and The Enlightenment: Contexts for Education, ca. 1764.” This will be the third of the seven lectures that the Library is co-hosting with Brown’s Department of History over the course of this anniversary year for the university under the series title “1764: Brown’s Founding in a Global Context.” More information on this and the other “1764” lectures can be found at www.Brown1764.org.

**THE JESUIT COLLEGES**


Founded in the sixteenth century, the Society of Jesus became famous for the well-run colleges it founded throughout the Catholic world, including the American colonies of Spain, Portugal, and France. The Society was an international organization; it maintained good relations with secular governments but ultimately answered to its Superior General, residing in Rome. In 1632, Jesuit colleges received the privilege of granting degrees that were equivalent to university degrees. This woodcut illustrates a Jesuit college in Santiago, Chile.

**THE LIBERAL ARTS**


Diego de Valadés was the son of a conquistador and an indigenous woman from Tlaxcala, Mexico. This book, a theological treatise on the nature and capacities of Native Americans, was the first book by a Mexican Indian or mestizo to be published in Europe. Valadés gives a firsthand account of the evangelization of Mexico and discusses the goal of educating Indians. Richly illustrated, this plate shows the seven liberal arts.
OPENING IN NOVEMBER

REVISITING THE BOOK IN THE AMERICAS

From November 2014 to March 2015, the MacMillan Reading Room will host an exhibit entitled Revisiting the Book in the Americas in commemoration of the 475th anniversary of the introduction of the printing press in America. The printer Juan Pablos arrived in Mexico City in 1539, a full century before John Daye began printing in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1640. Indeed, by the time the Bay Psalm Book was printed in Cambridge, over 700 books, pamphlets, and broadsides had already been printed in Spanish America.

An earlier Book in the Americas exhibit was presented in 1987, but the JCB’s collection has grown tremendously since then. Scholarly thinking on the topic has likewise changed and matured. With its extensive and in many ways unparalleled collection of Latin American imprints, the JCB is uniquely suited for such an exhibition, and for the larger initiative of which this exhibit and accompanying conference are only the beginning.

The exhibit will include sections on: the first presses in Latin America; printing houses and presses; type, ink and paper; journeymen, apprentices, and general conditions of the trade; bookbinding; and more. For the Spanish American book trade, many of these topics have received little or no scholarly attention. One of the exhibit’s objectives is to provoke discussion and research into these areas and provide us with a more complete understanding of this perennial topic.

On display will be books printed as early as the sixteenth century in Mexico and Peru, and as late as the wars of independence in the 1820s. Of particular interest are copies of the first imprint to appear in Peru, a copy of the earliest extant complete book printed in Mexico, a unique imprint that was a proof sheet pulled to check composition and layout, and a fragment of a broadside that includes the printer’s annotation of its cost. Imprints such as the latter two rarely survive, but have a great deal to teach us about the trade at the time. One entire section of the exhibit will be dedicated to bookbinding, a topic that has received almost no scholarly attention at all. There will also be, on loan or in facsimile, items from the Providence Public Library, the University of Texas at Austin, and the Archivo General de la Nación (Mexico).

This will be the first of an on-going series of exhibits, conferences and other activities focusing on the history of the book in the Americas, a subject of long interest at the JCB into which we hope to breathe new life.

REVISITING THE BOOK IN THE AMERICAS: CONFERENCE

In conjunction with the exhibit, the JCB will host an academic conference from February 19th to the 21st of 2015 that will explore the global commerce and circulation of books in Europe, the Americas, and Asia. Sixteen scholars from around the world will be invited to present papers and participate in roundtable discussions related to the movement of texts, both as material objects and as bearers of knowledge. While invited participants will approach the subject from multiple perspectives, including intellectual and economic history as well as material culture studies, one of the overarching themes will be to understand actors as they are integrated into trading or scholarly networks.

The Library staff is thrilled that Roger Chartier, noted scholar of the History of the Book, will deliver the keynote address. All panels and lectures will be open to the public, with a small registration fee.

José de Canterac, Boletín del ejército nacional de Lima, Ica: Imprenta que fue de la division enemiga del Sur, 1822.

With the Constitution of Cádiz at least nominally allowing freedom of the press, other cities began to acquire printing presses in quick succession. During the wars of independence, there were likewise portable presses that accompanied the armies to announce battlefield victories, as here, from “The press that belonged to the enemy division from the South.”
PREVIEW OF SELECTIONS FROM THE EXHIBITION

Proof pages from: Leopold, Copia de la promesa, que el invictissimo señor emperador Leopoldo II. [sic] de este nombre (que Deos guarde) hizo en veneracion de los santos lugares de Gerusalem. En la Puebla de los Angeles: por Diego Fernandez de Leon vendese en su tienda en la esquina de la Placa à la entrada de la calle de Cholula, 1685.

Once the compositor had set up the type, it would be moved to the press, inked, and a proof copy taken. Any errors would be corrected by unlocking the form in the press, extracting the errant sorts and replacing them with the correct ones as necessary. Proof copies are perhaps the most fugitive and ephemeral items from the hand press period. This unique proof sheet survived only because it was used as endpapers in another work.

Juan de Zumárraga, Dotrina breue muy p[ro]uchoza de las cosas q[ue] p[er]tene-
cen al a fe Catholica y a n[uest]ra
Cristiandad (Imp[re]ssa e[n] la misma
ciudad d[e] Mexico: Por su ma[n]dado y
a su costa, 1544). Woodcut decoration.

Though there are fragments of other works that survive, and some items known to exist that are now lost, Juan de Zumárraga’s Dotrina breue (1544) is the first extant full book printed in the Americas. Our copy was purchased from Nicolás León in 1896 (see New Acquisitions).

[Limosna, que en todos los reynos de las
Indias, sus islas,y las Filipinas deben] dar
los fieles para usar del indulto de comer
carne en los dias quadragesimales que
expresa, [Mexico City: s.n], 1799.

An analysis of several hundred bills for printing jobs in New Spain reveals a remarkable stability in charges for composition and presswork: 7 pesos per sheet. The annotation on this file copy of a portion of a broadside notes the 14 pesos charged for setting and printing the two sheets.
In his 1911 report on the library, George Parker Winship wrote that the JCB had acquired seven sixteenth-century Mexican imprints. These added to the 50 or so he purchased in 1896, making our collection, even then, the strongest in the world. One of the seven was Antonio Toledo’s *Introductio in dialecticam Aristotelis* (Antonio Ricardo, 1578). This was the first Jesuit work printed in America and was intended for their Colegio of San Pedro and San Pablo. The philologist and historian García Icazbalceta considered a complete copy to include Toledo’s *Aristotle*, followed by Francesco Maurolico’s *De sphaera*. The copy Winship purchased, however, only included Toledo’s *Aristotle*. The JCB has now completed our copy with the acquisition of Maurolico’s *De sphaera*.

Maurolico (1494-1575) was born in Sicily and made contributions in many fields. His works were quite popular in Europe in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, though today they appear at auction infrequently. He was an outspoken critic of Copernicus, writing in *De sphaera* that he deserved “a whip or a scourge rather than censure.”


**COMPLETING A MEXICAN INCUNABLE**

**RECENT ACQUISITIONS**

Beyond the Library’s rich holdings of Haitian and Jamaican imprints stands a smaller collection of imprints from across the other islands of the West Indies, representing printing traditions that have largely not been well preserved in the field. In this past summer we added two new titles representing the printer’s art in Martinique and Grenada. The first of these is the *Discours* by Charles Henri, Comte d’Estaing, of May 1764. This is the official address by the Comte, then the newly appointed governor-general of Saint-Domingue and the Windward Islands. This is almost certainly a very early imprint from Martinique, where the address was presented to the governing council.

From Grenada we have the four-page news sheet, *A Supplement, To the Gazette of Saturday, March 19, 1768*. The reason for this extra printing (heretofore unknown) to the Royal Grenada Gazette was a religious and political controversy then confronting the island. English Protestants settled in Grenada after the Peace of 1763, joining the established French Catholic population. Conflicting claims for representation resulted in decades of dissension.


**ADDITIONS TO EARLY CARIBBEAN PRINTING COLLECTION**
In the world of book and map collecting, there are some coveted items that never see the light of day, and many others that are snatched away at auction time by another institution’s significantly larger acquisitions budget. In this highly competitive environment, the JCB was all the more fortunate recently to acquire a spectacular 4-sheet eighteenth-century printed map of Quito that is attributed to the Ecuadorian Creole Pedro Vicente Maldonado. Thanks to the efforts of Chicago map collector Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr.—the original owner of the map who actively interceded on the Library’s behalf—and the generosity of map dealer Barry Ruderman, who purchased the map at auction but later agreed to sell it to us at a favorable price, the JCB was able to bring to its collection a map that holds a very sentimental place for the Library’s new director. It was back in 2001, in Madrid, that a young graduate student presented the preliminary results of his study of a map that had been produced in the Parisian atelier of Jean-Baptiste Bourguignon d’Anville for the king of Spain and was shepherded to completion by the French Academician Charles-Marie de la Condamine. In the audience that day was Nebenzahl, who discussed his copy of the Maldonado map with the presenter, Neil Safier, who later went on to publish an amply illustrated chapter in his Measuring the New World (Chicago, 2008) based on the 1750 Carta de la Provincia de Quito.

This new map acquisition will be on display on October 2 in the MacMillan Reading Room for a special Brown undergraduate event showcasing the Library’s Ecuadorian collection. On that occasion, in honor of a special screening of the Amazonian documentary Oil and Water, the Library will be hosting documentary filmmakers Laurel Spellman Smith and Francine Strickwerda, as well as film protagonists David Poritz (Brown Class of 2012) and Cofán Tribe Member Hugo Lucitante, for a discussion about early Amazonian history and resources at Brown for studying the indigenous past.
The Library was a key site for the flurry of academic activity on campus this summer. In June, Dr. Eric Shed of the Education department and the teachers in the Brown Summer High School program brought two classes of Providence area students for a workshop with reference librarian Kim Nusco on sources for the study of Rhode Island history. Dr. Shed’s student teachers in the Masters of Teaching program returned for a separate session on using primary sources in history instruction. In July, Dr. Dolores Iorizzo’s Leadership Institute course on Leadership in Science, Technology, and Medicine visited for a presentation of the Library’s holdings for the history of science. And throughout the summer, Kim presented workshops for Summer at Brown courses on topics ranging from “How to Make History” to “How to Read a Poem (and How to Write One, Too).” In all, over 150 students and instructors attended workshops highlighting the Library’s collection and role as a center for scholarship.

A perennial favorite for class visits, Phillis Wheatley’s Poems on various subjects, religious and moral (London, 1773), with the famous engraved portrait of Wheatley writing at her desk, served as inspiration this summer for students in the Summer at Brown course “How to Read a Poem (and How to Write One, Too).”

The bindings on JCB books can tell a lot about the history of the books themselves. Rare, highly collectible volumes have often been clothed by their collectors in rich leather with intricate gold tooling. Books that “work,” like navigation manuals and craftsmen’s architectural pattern books, were dressed for the job they had to do in serviceable and inexpensive leather, paper, and canvas. Some JCB books are found in their original bindings or in publishers’ paper wrappers just as they came from the printer, while others have been boxed to protect fragile paper and sewing. And then, there are what we informally call the “backyard bindings”—cheap, protective, home-made solutions created from pieced together scrap leather or old boards, which bring to mind the brown paper bag book covers that recent generations of students were admonished to make for the protection of school textbooks handed down from year to year. Every semester Jim Dimarcanonio brings his Rhode Island School of Design bookbinding class to partake of a buffet of these JCB bindings. While these young artists probably won’t become bookbinders by trade, they use the amazing variety of bindings here as a springboard to create special designs of their own.
TWO NEW LEADERSHIP GROUPS TO BE LAUNCHED IN SPRING 2015

With the enthusiastic support of the JCB’s Board of Governors, the Library will be forming a Library Leadership Council that will bring together its past and future leaders to discuss topics related to the Library’s future success and long-term stability. Benefitting from the wide range of expertise and international connections of a distinguished group of past and present supporters, we hope to use this group to increase the Library’s exposure to different cultural and intellectual circles and to strengthen the already steadfast support offered by its own Board of Governors. Another goal of the Library Leadership Council is to mentor new and future JCB Board and Council members on issues that are relevant to the worlds of antiquarian book collecting, collections management, institutional support, and the engagement of new publics through lectures, programming, and digital media.

Membership in the Library Leadership Council will be open to all former members of the JCB’s Board of Governors and a select group of chosen leaders from the worlds of business, culture, and higher education, individuals we hope will play important leadership roles at the Library. We are thrilled to announce that former JCB Governor Vincent Buonanno Jr. has agreed to chair the Council. The first meeting of the Council is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, April 30, 2015 in Providence, in anticipation of a two-day meeting of the newly inaugurated Association of Friends and Fellows of the John Carter Brown Library on May 1-2 and a Saturday evening dinner to honor former Director and Librarian Norman Fiering (see photo above and description of event on page 12).

The Library will also be convening an Academic Advisory Committee that will advise the JCB’s director and staff on scholarly matters, composed of faculty at Brown as well as leading scholars from other institutions. Thanks to a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation, this committee will gather together in March, 2015 to discuss the intellectual orientation of the Library and its ongoing research agenda. The Committee will also play a role in selecting the Library’s short-term fellows, which will allow the committee to put into practice some of the new directions being proposed. Rolena Adorno, chair of the department of Spanish and Portuguese literature at Yale University, has agreed to chair this important committee and to sit ex officio as a member of the JCB’s Board of Governors. Other members of this inaugural cohort include: Laura Bass (Brown); Josiah Blackmore (Harvard); Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra (UT-Austin); Hal Cook (Brown); Paja Faudree (Brown); Roquinaldo Ferreira (Brown); Philip Gould (Brown); Philip Morgan (Johns Hopkins University); Jeremy Mumford (Brown); and Joanne Pillsbury (The Metropolitan Museum of Art).

FOCUS ON FRENCH AMERICANA: FRANÇOIS FURSTENBERG TO GIVE ANNUAL SONIA GALLETTI LECTURE IN FEBRUARY 2015

In 2015 the Library will begin digitizing its French Americana collection, having nearly completed the campaign to add all German Americana titles to the JCB’s already sizeable collection of full digital facsimiles that can be freely accessed through the Internet Archive. What better way to celebrate this new effort than to have François Furestenberg, a leading scholar of the French Atlantic World, give the annual Galletti lecture in February. Mark your calendars, brush up on your language skills, and be ready to discuss When the United States Spoke French: Five Refugees Who Shaped a Nation (New York: The Penguin Press, 2014). One of the post-Revolution émigrés whom Furestenberg tracks in this recent publication is philosophe Constantin-François de Chasseboeuf, comte de Volney. To illustrate this section he reproduces a map from the JCB copy of Volney’s two-volume Tableau du climat et du sol des États-Unis. Written “in part to help France better understand the American West,” the timing of its publication in 1803 was not so felicitous, since, as you’ll read in When the United States Spoke French, this was also the year in which Talleyrand sold Louisiana to the United States. To explore this map, which shows the directions of the oceanic winds and currents in the Atlantic and Caribbean, see p. 388, or visit the Library’s Luna Imaging Database, where a sampling of digitized French Americana from the JCB can already be found: jcb.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/s/d597x8
HESTER BLUM CATCHES A RARE RIDE ON THE 38TH VOYAGE OF THE CHARLES W. MORGAN

This past summer the last surviving nineteenth-century whale ship, the Charles W. Morgan from 1841, sailed from Mystic Seaport for the first time in more than 80 years, and former JCB Reese Fellow Hester Blum was one of 79 lucky folks, from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds, on board. The voyage was for a night and a day, over July 7-8, and Hester worked alongside staff from the Mystic Seaport Museum, other historians, teachers, scientists, journalists, and whaling descendants “to better understand the past experiences of those who sailed this ship and others like her.” You can join in this process of discovery by way of Hester’s photo journal (hmblum.exposure.co/charles-w-morgan) and the article about the voyage that she wrote for the LA Review of Books (lareviewofbooks.org/essay/18-hours-mast).

FELLOWS’ SPOTLIGHT: HITTING THE HIGH SEAS

ARIANNE URUS AT S.E.A.

As Arianne Urus, Jeanette B. Black Fellow in 2013-2014, sat in the reading room one day last September reading the account of an eighteenth-century British surveyor’s North Atlantic crossing, she received an email from Susan Danforth inviting her to make her own crossing as a member of the crew for the Sea Education Association’s (SEA) Summer 2014 Transatlantic program. Susan has for many years welcomed staff and students of SEA to the JCB to see selections from the Library’s maritime treasures. And, occasionally, when an extra berth comes open, she has been able, in turn, to connect our fellows to the hands-on experiences that SEA has to offer. Arianne’s enthusiastic “Yes!” to Susan’s invitation has profoundly changed her connection to her own maritime research, and she has kindly shared with us here a little bit of what she learned when she left the books behind and experienced the reality of seafaring firsthand. See also the online log of the Corwith Cramer’s sailing at: www.sea.edu/voyages/blog_cramer_253

This June I sailed across the North Atlantic with the Sea Education Association (S.E.A.) as a scholar-in-residence and crew cadet on the SSV Corwith Cramer. We departed from Woods Hole in Cape Cod on June 1, and after a strong gale that sent 20-foot waves over the deck, an endless fog that descended and chilled us through our layers of fleece and foul-weather gear, and eerie days of glassy seas, we finally arrived in Cork, Ireland on June 28. Somewhere in between we crossed over the southern edge of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, an important site for the eighteenth-century cod fisheries I spent last fall researching at the JCB.

Now, back ashore, when I read captains’ letters about minute weather details or seeing another ship in the distance, they resonate in a new way. I remember before I left how I wondered if I would get bored seeing nothing but sky and sea for four weeks, imagining it would grow rather monotonous. Instead, I found that I never tired of it, and in fact found the seascape incredibly dynamic as I learned not just to carefully observe different types of cloud formations and wave caps, but also what these differences mean. I saw lots of birds as we crossed the southern tip of the Grand Banks, just like The English Pilot, the eighteenth-century navigation guide I read last fall at the JCB told me I would. Between learning how to navigate by the stars, observing the weather to record in the logbook, hauling lots of lines, and steering the ship at the helm, I now know the maritime world through my labor, just like the fishermen-sailors I study. – Arianne Urus
RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY FORMER JCB FELLOWS

Brooke N. Newman and Gregory Smithers, editors
NATIVE DIASPORAS: INDIGENOUS IDENTITIES AND SETTLER COLONIALISM IN THE AMERICAS
University of Nebraska Press, 2014

The arrival of European settlers in the Americas disrupted the indigenous way of life, and the effects of colonialism shattered Native communities. This collection of essays explores how indigenous peoples forged a sense of identity and community amid the changes wrought by European colonialism in the Caribbean, the Pacific Islands, and the mainland Americas from the seventeenth through the twentieth century. Brooke N. Newman is Assistant Professor of History at Virginia Commonwealth University, and was an NEH Fellow in 2010–11.

Denver Brunsman
THE EVIL NECESSITY: BRITISH NAVAL IMPRESSMENT IN THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ATLANTIC WORLD
University of Virginia Press, 2013

Press gangs, consisting of a navy officer backed by sailors, often used violence or the threat of violence to supply the skilled manpower necessary to establish and maintain British naval supremacy. Drawing on ships’ logs, merchants’ papers, personal letters, and diaries, this book shows how ultimately the controversy over impressment contributed to the American Revolution and served as a leading cause of the War of 1812. Denver Brunsman is Assistant Professor of History at George Washington University, and was an Alexander O. Vietor Memorial Fellow in 2001-02.

Felipe Fernández-Armesto
OUR AMERICA: A HISPANIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES
W. W. Norton & Company, 2014

The United States is still typically conceived of as an offshoot of England, with our history unfolding east to west beginning with the first English settlers in Jamestown—a view that overlooks the significance of America’s Hispanic past. In contrast, this narrative begins with the explorers and conquistadores who planted Spain’s first colonies in Puerto Rico, Florida, and the Southwest. Missionaries and rancheros carry Spain’s expansive impulse into the late eighteenth century, settling California, mapping the American interior to the Rockies, and charting the Pacific coast. Felipe Fernández Armesto is Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame, and was a Mellon Senior Fellow in 1997–98.

Jill Lepore
BOOK OF AGES: THE LIFE AND OPINIONS OF JANE FRANKLIN
Alfred A. Knopf, 2013

Like her brother Benjamin Franklin, Jane Franklin was a passionate reader, a gifted writer, and an astonishingly shrewd political commentator. Unlike him, she was a mother of twelve. Making use of an amazing cache of little-studied material, including documents, objects, and portraits only just discovered, Jill Lepore brings Jane Franklin to life in a way that illuminates not only this one woman but an entire world—a world usually lost to history. Jill Lepore is Professor of American History at Harvard University, and was a Charles H. Watts Memorial Fellow in 1993-94.
Mark your calendars for May 1-3, 2015! Building on the tremendous success of the Fellows’ 50th Reunion Conference in 2012, this year’s 73rd Annual Meeting of the Associates of the John Carter Brown Library will be a reunion with a twist. As many of you know, the Associates of the John Carter Brown Library got its start in January of 1944, conceived by several luminaries as a dues paying group that would help the Library with acquisitions, exhibitions, and occasional publications. Since that time, the number of Associates has increased, but we’re hoping that it will increase now even more. To that end, we are merging the energy and vitality of programming for former fellows with the activities and benefits of the Associates program. This new, combined entity, to be called The Association of Friends and Fellows of the John Carter Brown Library, will take the best of both traditions and build upon them. It will be a group for friends of the Library who want to support its ongoing activities, as well as a kind of alumni network whereby former fellows can maintain an affiliation with the institution throughout their career.

The kickoff for this new Association will take place on May 1, 2015, at the Library’s regular annual Associates meeting. Bill Twaddell, former U.S. Ambassador and member of the Library’s Board of Governors, and Matthew Restall, historian of colonial Mexico and twice a former fellow of the Library, have agreed to serve as co-chairs of this new Association during its initial planning phase. We are also thrilled to announce that, on the occasion of this event, Director and Librarian Emeritus Norman Fiering will be honored for his service to the Library (1983-2006).

The Associates has been a fundamental part of the Library’s success, and we hope that it will continue to buoy the institution in its new guise. The group has not only acquired books for the collection and sponsored the occasional publication, but it has also assisted the Library in achieving another important goal: attracting scholars to Providence by supporting the JCB Fellows’ Program, often sponsoring several researchers each year. This fusion of former fellows and Associates thus makes perfect sense, and we look forward to working to seamlessly integrate these two constituencies in the years to come.
THE JCB LOSES A STERLING BOOKMAN: DAVID PARSONS (1939-2014)

For those who knew him, he was a quiet man, deeply knowledgeable, with an incisive intelligence and a cool demeanor under pressure. David Parsons served the Library for the past ten years not only as a member of its Board of Governors, but also as a member of the Library’s five-person Executive Committee. No one understood the JCB’s importance as a cultural treasure more than he did. As a collector who started late in life, David exhibited a child-like passion for his newfound craft, even as his knowledge was meticulous and rivaled any curator in his field of expertise: the earliest authors to describe their encounters with a new world. When he came to the Library, his eyes would light up as he touched the spines of books published by Columbus, Vespucci, and others whose names only he and the world’s leading collectors and specialists would recognize.

David was a singularly committed and supportive friend of the JCB, always thinking of ways to contribute his expertise. When his great Pacific exploration collection came on the market, he gave the Library the possibility of identifying a single book that he would donate to the collection. The book that was selected was Stepan Petrovich Krasheninnikov’s “Description of Kamchatka,” Opisanie zemli Kamchatskoi (Saint Petersburg, 1755), an exploration narrative in the original Russian. David very graciously withdrew it from the sale in the winter of 2006, allowing the JCB to become the fifth American library to own it. The text includes one of the earliest printed narratives of Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, and complements other early editions of Russian exploration narratives in Dutch, English, French, and German.

David’s vision and generous support of fellowships and research will continue long into the future—indeed, in perpetuity. As an homage to someone who was a great enthusiast for maritime exploration and the discovery of new worlds, the staff of the Library would like to express our deepest condolences to his family and our deepest gratitude to David, whose capacious vision has ensured safe passage for the imaginative dreams of scholars and book lovers the world over. All of the staff at the JCB will miss his wise counsel and friendship, and we collectively wish him the safest of journeys, with the wind at his back.

STILL A GREAT TIME TO JOIN THE JCB ASSOCIATES!

For 70 years the JCB Associates group has been a haven for lovers of rare books, maps and manuscripts as well as students of the history of the Americas. Members come from all over the world and from all walks of life but share a singular commitment to the John Carter Brown Library as a repository for primary source materials that inspire new pathways into the past.

For over 50 years now, JCB Fellows have also pursued scholarly projects based on the Library’s collections, coming to Providence for months at a time to focus on a particular topic of historic or cultural interest. Our fellows have come together informally with Associates and other members of the Brown community at weekly talks showcasing Fellows’ research and hosted by the Library since 1983.

While these two constituencies of Former Fellows and Associates will more formally merge in 2015, you can still join the Associates today and be a part of their historic convergence. For more information about membership in the Associates, including how to join, see www.jcbl.org or call Maureen O’Donnell at 401-863-1553.
SEPTEMBER 11 Craig Steven Wilder, Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, “The Paradox of Jewish Indians: Religion and Race on the Colonial Campus.” The second lecture for 1764: Brown’s Founding in a Global Context, a series presented by the Department of History and the JCB in celebration of Brown University’s 250th Anniversary. MacMillan Reading Room, 5:30 p.m. Reception to follow at the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, 94 Waterman Street.

SEPTEMBER 27 Brown University’s 250th Anniversary Fall Celebration. JCB Open House, 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. Guided tour of Off to College: Higher Education in the Americas, 1551-1825 with guest curator Jeremy Mumford, Brown University, Department of History, MacMillan Reading Room, 11:00 a.m.

THE Earliest Americas: A New Initiative in Indigenous Studies at the John Carter Brown Library

OCTOBER 13 Ned Blackhawk, Professor of History and American Studies, Yale University, Inaugural Lecture. MacMillan Reading Room, 5:30 p.m. Reception to follow.

OCTOBER 14 Indigenous Studies Roundtable moderated by Matthew Restall (Penn State), with Daryl Baldwin (Myamia Center, Miami University), Joshua L. Reid (University of Massachusetts Boston), Christine DeLucia (Mt. Holyoke College), Heather Roller (Colgate University). MacMillan Reading Room, 4:00 p.m.


NOVEMBER 8 Annual Freda Bromsen Bolster Concert: Community MusicWorks Players. MacMillan Reading Room, 4:00 p.m. Free, but reservation required through Community MusicWorks at 401 861-5650.


SAVE THE DATES FOR 2015

FEBRUARY 9 Annual Sonia Galletti Lecture: François Furstenberg, Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University, author of When the United States Spoke French: Five Refugees Who Shaped a Nation. MacMillan Reading Room, 5:30 p.m. Reception to follow.

APRIL 2-3 Subterranean Worlds Symposium, with Keynote Lecture (on April 2) by Kris Lane, Professor of History, Tulane University: “Notes from Underground: History Inside the Cerro Rico de Potosí.” MacMillan Reading Room, 5:30 p.m. Reception to follow.

2014-2015 WEDNESDAY TALKS

In addition to our new first Wednesdays at noon at the Annmary Brown Memorial, and our Short-Term Fellows’ Talks at 4 p.m. on other Wednesdays in the MacMillan Reading Room, we will be inaugurating the JCB Seminar in the History of the Americas and the World (SHAW), which will take place on the occasional Wednesday at 4 p.m. For more information and full schedule, please see the Events page at jcbl.org.

The SHAW speakers in this first year will be:

OCT 22 / Anya Zilberstein (Concordia University/MIT); DEC 10 / Philip D. Morgan (The Johns Hopkins University); JAN 21 / Justin Pope (CSSJ-JCB Postdoctoral Fellow, Brown University); FEB 25 / Elizabeth Wright (University of Georgia); APRIL 15 / Linford Fisher (Brown University).