FOLIOS

Spring 2018
RECENT SUCCESSES AND FUTURE PLANS

By John Tombarge, University Librarian

The University Library at Washington and Lee had a great 2017 thanks in large part to extraordinary support provided by members of the Friends of the Library. Not only did they contribute funds for library resources that benefit our students, faculty, alumni and the local community, they also met the challenge to raise funds for the Northen Auditorium lobby renovation. It was their swift response to our call for help that made this renovation possible.

Students now use the lobby in much greater numbers. They especially appreciate the newly created study spaces, which are bright and feature new furniture with convenient electrical outlets. Additionally, this space makes a better impression on prospective students who traverse the area when attending Admissions sessions in Northen Auditorium. The newly updated lobby provides the perfect venue for prospective students to witness current students hard at work.

While this area is now brighter, more modern and technologically equipped, one important element needs improvement—the exhibit cases outside of Special Collections. These cases showcase delicate and rare materials held by Special Collections. Unfortunately, the current cases are outdated and do not meet museum standards. Secure cases with adequate environmental controls are needed.

Courses often curate exhibits in this space and utilize Special Collections materials. This provides students with the unique experience of closely analyzing, organizing and displaying rare artifacts. Visitors to Special Collections also benefit from these exhibits, whether curated by students or Special Collections staff, as they often are exposed to new information and become interested in new fields of research.

The Friends of the Library Board’s goal over the next year is to raise the funding for improved cases outside of Special Collections. Please support the work of the Friends of the Library by joining or renewing your membership. Together we can continue to build upon our already substantial improvements.
The University Library frequently hosts exhibits, public lectures, and other events. To keep up to date with all of the library’s activities, make sure to review our online calendar of events at library.wlu.edu/events.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Library on Saturday, April 28, at 1:00 p.m., in Leyburn.

The Annual Friends of the Library Symposium will follow the meeting at 1:30 p.m. Rob Cooper ’68 Pam Pacelli Cooper will deliver a talk titled: Storytelling in the Digital Age. This talk is free and open to the public. No tickets are required.

To Join the Friends of the Library, or to make a donation, go to library.wlu.edu/friends

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John Tombarge, University Librarian
After a successful pilot, the library will continue its subscription to Kanopy. Kanopy is an on-demand streaming video service with more than 30,000 films, including movies and documentaries. Kanopy offers the library a cost-effective and flexible model through Patron Driven Acquisition (PDA), ensuring that the library is only paying for films that patrons actually watch.

In addition to films and documentaries, Kanopy offers a wide subject range for faculty and students, including the arts, business, education, global studies and languages, health, media and communications, sciences, social sciences, and instructional films and lessons. During the 2017 pilot, more than 2,573 films were accessed on the Kanopy site by the W&L community. Additionally, the library purchased 17 films through the Kanopy service.

Not all films are available in Kanopy, but W&L community members can contact library staff with any suggestions for film additions. Staff will work with Kanopy to determine whether they can obtain the licensing and add the film to their platform. During the pilot, Kanopy was able to negotiate licenses for more than 10 films requested by W&L faculty. Since Kanopy can be accessed on or off campus by W&L community members, and is mobile- and tablet-friendly, we hope that all readers will give this invaluable service a try.

The last calendar year was very busy for the library, and 2018 promises to be just as filled with activity and change! In January, we went live with our brand new library catalog, also known as a “discovery system,” Primo. Although we fondly remember our old catalog, Annie, Primo provides a unified path to finding items the library owns or has access to—be it books, articles, DVDs, CDs, government documents or archival content. This system also gives users the ability to log in and review their library accounts. It really is a one-stop shop. If you have any questions about how to use PRIMO, please feel free to contact the library for a tutorial.

As 2018 progresses, we plan to accompany our new search interface with an updated, user-friendly website. Part of the examination of our online users’ needs will be included in a new Spring Term course that I will co-teach with librarian Mary Abdoney called “Digital Humanities Studio: Web User Experience in Action.” This course will give students the real-world opportunity to gather information from users, which in turn will inform web design and development.

Once again, 2018 will be another year filled with change. We thank all of our users who continue to learn with us as we implement new tools, test new services, and explore the boundaries of the information world.
When thinking of Washington and Lee’s Special Collections, manuscripts, rare books and historic documents spring to mind. But nestled among that traditional fare is a literal treasure chest—a small wooden cabinet filled with ancient coins largely from the Roman Empire. Although it is a recent addition, the Blackledge Coin Collection has already impacted the research trajectory of one W&L student, Casey Hamlet ’21.

Professor Adrienne Hagen of the Classics Department introduced Casey to the coin collection during Latin 201’s visit to Special Collections. After Casey’s interest was piqued, Hagen suggested she complete an independent study to further research the coins.

What does this research involve? Thus far, Casey has chronologically organized the initially unordered collection. She has also investigated the figures stamped on the coin faces using online numismatic resources. Many of the figures are male, but Casey is particularly interested in unearthing histories of the women depicted on these coins.

One notable woman commemorated through coinage is Julia Domna. Domna was the second wife of Severus, Roman emperor from 193 to 211 CE. Interestingly, these coins were struck under Julia Domna’s son, Caracalla, and her grandson, Elagabalus. According to Casey, this homage proved unique for the period:

*Most coins of women at the time [were struck] just because they were wives of emperors. No one’s mother or grandmother was really on it, except for her...She had a lot of political influence and was honored by her coin being struck by her son and grandson.*

Casey is excited to share information about women like Domna and is currently building a website to make her research widely available. This research not only enriches the fields of classics and numismatics, it serves as an example of the intersection of past and present. Hagen reinforces the unique nature of this study: “The bridge between antiquity and the digital age is pretty neat...I think it’s really cool that we’re taking something so old and so physical, then using digital tools to learn about it and help share that research with other people.”

To step into the past yourself, visit Special Collections and ask to see the Blackledge Coin Collection, or check out Casey’s evolving website at romancoins.omeka.wlu.edu/.

**FUN FACTS ABOUT THE COLLECTION:**

Most of the collection dates from the Roman Empire, from the reign of Tiberius (14–37 CE) to the reign of Anastasius (491-518 CE).

The collection includes a variety of coins, such as a golden *aureus*, silver *denarius*, and bronze *asses*.

Some non-Roman coins are included in the collection. Hagen notes: “There is one drawer of later Byzantine coins, and a few that appear to be from the Roman Republic...plus a couple of oddities like a...penny from Nova Scotia.”
My name is Alice, and I am currently a senior studying business and psychology. I have been working at Leyburn Library since my freshman year. I must say, I had a special connection with the library since the beginning. I started off as the information/circulation student assistant. I still remember taking a test first thing in order to learn how to shelve books properly. That was a very basic but essential introduction, as I got to know more about how books in a library are organized. I kind of missed the inventory (scanning books) and shelving part of the job after being “promoted” to the Information Desk, where my main duties were to assist patrons with finding and checking out library materials. Regardless, I really enjoyed sitting at the desk, interacting with other people, and helping customers find what they need. I also learned to get used to unexpected problems, especially when the shifts were outside the library’s official working hours and the librarians were not around to help us.

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After two years working at the desk, I switched to the Research Help Desk, which is right around the corner. There, I help students with their research papers, which includes finding relevant books and journal articles or formatting references with correct citation styles. The training at that desk has enhanced my research skills a great deal. Simultaneously, I am working with Emily Cook as the library event and outreach student associate. My tasks vary a lot and include designing and printing posters, pulling books, helping Emily put books on display, and distributing flyers about upcoming events to the W&L community. One very special task that I look forward to every week is our #throwbackthursday series with the library’s Special Collections on Instagram. Every time I go down to talk to Tom Camden, head of Special Collections, about an idea to post on social media, I learn something fascinating about W&L’s past, U.S. history and even world history. It is truly a special collection because there are lots of artifacts, dating back to the 1700s or even earlier, with special stories behind them. If you have an Instagram account, you can search #wluSpecialCollections to see our posts.

Last but not least, since I have spent so much of my time in the library (both working and studying), I have been able to form so many relationships with the librarians, especially my work advisors. They are extremely friendly and helpful. This is my favorite part about working in the library. For example, I can talk to Emily about many random things unrelated to work or any “frustration” I come across, and she listens to me and offers me help. Sometimes, I have extended conversations with Tom about a topic for a social media post. Or the other day, Laura Hewett, my former work supervisor, congratulated me on my job offer.

Moments like that make my work experience in the library really special. I’ll definitely do my best to enjoy my last semesters here.
STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MOATAZ KHALIFA

FACT SHEET

Education:
- B.S. in Physics, American University in Cairo
- M.S. in Physics, American University in Cairo
- M.S. in Physics, Virginia Tech
- Ph.D. in Physics, Virginia Tech

Teaching Experience:
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Physics, W&L, 2015-2018

Research Interests:
1. Nanotechnology
2. Nanolithography using atomic force microscopes
3. Electron Energy Loss Spectroscopy (EELS) quantitative models for transmission electron microscopes
4. Density functional theory

AN INTERVIEW WITH MOATAZ KHALIFA

Q: What will be your responsibilities as the library’s new director of data education?

A: The responsibilities for this new position are truly exciting and diverse. They include:
1. Design and teach courses about data science and data analytics
2. Teach modules within already existing courses that depend on data science
3. Assist faculty members and students with research projects that require data analysis
4. Help in developing a peer tutoring program for students who are involved in data intensive research

Q: What drew you to this position?

A: The quote “We are drowning in information but starved for knowledge” by John Naisbitt is a big motivator for me to learn—and help others learn—more about how to turn data into knowledge. We live in a world where we are constantly bombarded by large amounts of data, information, statistics, facts and opinions disguised as facts, all of which help shape the public awareness in many ways. The ability to deal with large datasets, the knowledge of how such data is processed, and the understanding of weaknesses and strengths in every data processing technique demystifies results that are normally used to shape opinions on a public and private level.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MOATAZ KHALIFA

Q: How will your disciplinary expertise in physics inform your new work?

A: First of all, I am a strong believer in the benefits of true interdisciplinarity in research. Second of all, every physicist by training has to take a healthy dose of advanced statistics and learn data analysis. One of my most successful collaborations so far is the one in which I was the physicist responsible for building a computational statistical model to help transmission electron microscopists improve the reliability and preciseness of the data extracted from the electron energy dissipation spectrographs. Third of all, coming from the natural sciences side of the fence, I am keenly aware of the complexity of attempting to apply physical and mathematical models to experiments done in the social sciences.

Q: Why is data literacy important to today’s undergraduate students?

A: We live in a society in which political, economic and technological advancement depends on analyzing large amounts of data…which keeps getting larger. For students who don’t intend to major in fields that depend on data analysis, learning the fundamentals of data science and analytics will help in shaping the well-rounded education they are receiving here at Washington and Lee. For students who are majoring, or intending to major, in fields that rely heavily on data, such as economics, business or any of the natural sciences, to name a few, data literacy is extremely important for obvious reasons.
ADA LOVELACE DAY: A CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN STEM
By Jenny Bagger ’19

So, who was Ada Lovelace? Some people know her as the daughter of Lord Byron, the famed Romantic poet. People should know her as the first computer programmer—not the first female computer programmer, but the first ever! She is responsible for elaborating on the Analytical Engine, an early predecessor of the modern computer. Her impact on the Analytical Engine, as well as on other machines, was groundbreaking and remains extremely relevant as we continue to embrace and improve upon technology.

Today, we celebrate her, as well as all women in science, technology, engineering and math around the world, on Ada Lovelace Day.

On October 10, we had our own Ada Lovelace Day at W&L, sponsored by the University Library. On this occasion, we took to Wikipedia to edit any page we felt needed a little TLC. The edit-a-thon was intended to raise awareness about underappreciated women in STEM, like Ada Lovelace, by inviting students and faculty alike to edit Wikipedia articles, create new articles for important people without them, and supply citations for stated facts without references. Emily Cook, our research and outreach librarian, hosted the event and provided attendees with information on how to get started (as well as candy, hot chocolate and Pure Eats donuts). She emphasized the importance of “verifiable accuracy,” as Wikipedia puts it in its stated principles, and simply getting the facts out there so that innovators like Ada Lovelace can be awarded the appreciation they deserve.

As I enjoyed a Pure Eats donut, I explored the list of women scientists and important figures, and I quickly became overwhelmed by the number of underrepresented and underappreciated women whose pages required improvement. I wanted to do them all justice by editing their pages and contributing to the culmination of knowledge already on the internet. Because I couldn’t choose just one, I aided the issue at large by finding references for statements without citations on various articles. In this way, I felt that I was able to help in a broad yet impactful manner. Now that I have dipped my toe into the world of editing Wikipedia articles, I can dive deeper into individual articles, verifying facts and adding biographical information in the hopes of garnering support for and granting credit to women whose achievements should not go unnoticed.

You can get involved, too! Although this year’s Ada Lovelace Day has passed, you can contribute to the cause and engage in the rewarding feeling of spreading accurate knowledge on the internet by editing one of the 5,490,757 articles (and counting) currently on Wikipedia. There are an infinite number of ways to celebrate important women in STEM and make a difference.

Check out these links to get started:
- How to Edit Wikipedia Articles: tiny.cc/wikiedit
- WikiProject: Women in Red: tiny.cc/womeninredwiki
- WikiProject: Women in Science: tiny.cc/womenscientistswiki
- Women in History Stubs: tiny.cc/womenshistorystubs

*Article originally published online at digitalhumanities.wlu.edu.*
I was on sabbatical during the months of June, July and August of 2017. The purpose of my sabbatical was to develop an instructional program for all students who are employed by the University Library. This instructional program is meant to complement the current training that our students receive while they staff our Information Desk, Research Help Desk, Collection Services, and Special Collections and Archives departments. Through this program, students will develop a holistic view of the University Library by exposure to all library departments.

After conducting a literature review on student training, I visited several of our peer institutions in order to gather information about similar programs. In June, I was able to visit Davidson College to learn more about their Peer Research Advisor (PRA) program. I met with Cara Evanson, Information Literacy Librarian for Davidson College, about her experiences with the PRA program. Also in June, I met with Towson University librarians Sara Arnold-Garza and Carissa Tomlinson, co-editors of the book “Students Lead the Library: The Importance of Student Contributions to the Academic Library.” During that site visit, I was able to learn more about Towson’s A-List (Albert S. Cook Library Leadership Institute for Students) program for student employment. In July, I met with Josh Waltman, the Learning Commons Director of Liberty University, to discuss their student training program. Through research and visitations, I was able to evaluate practices and determine what may work well for our student instruction program.

As the product of my sabbatical, I developed an online toolkit that can be used by our library staff to facilitate this program. This website includes curriculum for the program and an assessment piece that consists of exit interviews. Eventually, this toolkit may include asynchronous content such as videos and quizzes.

I titled this program “Library Ambassador” as an acknowledgement that our student employees are logical conduits to transmit information to their peers about the research process and library services. This program will build upon students’ prior knowledge and experiences. As part of the program, students will engage in collaborative projects and shared intellectual experiences. A future goal may be that students will be given an opportunity to apply for the Research Help Desk job vacancies only after they have completed several terms of this program.

I plan to pilot this program in 2018 using a subset of students employed in the Access Services department of the University Library, and focusing on students in their first and second year at Washington and Lee University. To execute this program, students will come together several times a term to receive instruction led by librarians and other key staff members.

In addition to the materials developed locally, I hope this program will provide a wide range of benefits to the library profession. Once we have completed several terms, my goal is to share the program through various avenues. I plan to present our program at library conferences such as the bi-yearly Association of College and Research Libraries conference and submit an article for publication in “College and Research Libraries News.” I also would like to explore the possibility of turning this program into an experiential learning one-credit course at Washington and Lee.

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**LIBRARY AMBASSADOR LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Students will discover that they are participants in the research conversation through their involvement in various librarian-led instructional activities.
- Students will model leadership skills by working in groups and designing outreach opportunities through the planning and creation of library exhibitions or library marketing activities.
- Students will apply enhanced customer service skills to their work by learning more about the University Library and how to deliver basic research help.
- Students will discover how to integrate their library employment experiences into their resumes and their post-graduation lives.
- Students will recommend library improvements by participating in a focus group and presenting ideas designed to guide the future of the library.
The exquisite, leather-bound, diminutive pieces featured in this story are not particularly rare in themselves — however, the association with one of America’s most important and well-known families elevates the two 1749 pieces to an uncommonly high level of rarity.

In preparing for a Latin class presentation on Cicero in the fall of 2016, I was working with Adrienne Hagen, visiting assistant professor of classics. While reviewing the fairly extensive and rich collection of early classics by and related to Cicero in the Special Collections vault, we made a startling and wonderful discovery. Volume VI and Volume XX of the multi-volume set of “Ciceronis Opera” (the works of Cicero) bear the beautiful and distinctive bookplate of John Parke Custis, the stepson of George Washington.

Adding even more excitement and intrigue to the discovery is the distinctive signature of Mary Anna Randolph Custis, the granddaughter of John Parke Custis and the wife of General Robert E. Lee, president of Washington College (now Washington and Lee University) from 1865-1870.

The two small volumes became part of the Washington and Lee library collection when George Washington Custis (G.W.C.) Lee left the president’s office in 1897. He had held the position since his father’s death in 1870. Presumably, the books were part of the Washingtonian Collection that Mary Custis Lee had acquired when she inherited Arlington House.

Upon federal occupation of Arlington House in 1861, Mary Custis Lee had much of the Washington-related material removed to Richmond for safekeeping. The items ultimately were shipped to Lexington, but prior to the 1864 Hunter’s Raid of Lexington, the Washington family treasures were removed to the village of Brownsburg, on the outskirts of Lexington, for additional security measures. The recent provenance of the pieces is startlingly clear from the ownership stamps and signatures present on both volumes.

Although the pieces were intact and in fair condition, considering their age, some stabilization work, including the repair and restoration of the bindings and the fabrication of custom linen clamshell boxes, was undertaken during summer and early fall of 2017. That work was generously underwritten by Lisa R. Moore of Staunton, Virginia. Moore, former vice-regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, last year graciously funded the restoration of George Washington’s copy of “The Beauties of Johnson” (1782), which also bears the signatures of George Washington and Mary Anna Randolph Custis.

Although the provenance of the Cicero volumes through the Lee family is quite clear, questions remain as to the ownership of the volumes prior to John Parke Custis. A cursory examination of the volumes shows that the bookplate of John Parke Custis has actually been pasted over a previous bookplate. Further study needs to be undertaken to determine if Custis (known as “Jacky”), who died just prior to his 27th birthday in 1781 at Yorktown after the British surrender, inherited the books from his father, Daniel Parke Custis (Martha Washington’s first husband) or from his stepfather, George Washington.

Perhaps the bookplate that lies underneath John Parke Custis’ bookplate will tell the rest of the story. Upon his death at such a young age, Jacky’s widow and children returned to Mount Vernon for a brief period. It is likely that the Cicero volumes, now residing in Washington and Lee’s Special Collections vault, were added to the Mount Vernon Library by Jacky’s devoted mother, Martha Washington. That lineal association from the Washington family at Mount Vernon to the Lee family of Lexington makes our two Cicero volumes extraordinarily rare.
Five hundred years ago, on October 31, 1517, Martin Luther, a German professor of theology, composer, priest and monk nailed his “Ninety-five Theses…” to the church door at Wittenberg, effectively launching a period of history known today as the Protestant Reformation. On that fateful day, Luther had written to his bishop, Albrecht von Brandenburg, protesting the sale of indulgences. He enclosed in his letter a copy of his “Disputation of Martin Luther on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences,” which came to be known as the “Ninety-five Theses.”

The Latin “Theses” were printed in several locations in Germany in 1517. A few months later, supporters of Luther translated the “Ninety-five Theses” from Latin into German. Within two weeks, copies of the “Theses” had spread throughout Germany. Within two months, they had spread throughout Europe. Luther’s writings circulated widely, reaching France, England and Italy as early as 1519. He made effective use of Johannes Gutenberg’s printing press to spread his views, switching from Latin to German to appeal to a broader audience. In fact, between 1500 and 1530, Luther’s works represented one-fifth of all materials printed in Germany.

The anniversary year 2017 saw a great deal of worldwide activity related to Martin Luther and the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. Washington and Lee University was no exception in observance of that anniversary. Special classes and visiting scholars explored every aspect of that extraordinary period in human history. Special Collections & Archives took the opportunity to restore and showcase four early Luther pamphlets (1523-1531). That restoration was completed in late fall 2017, and the cost was underwritten by a 2017 graduate.

One additional Luther piece requires preservation—a circa 1757 Martin Luther Bible printed in Basel, Switzerland. This rare Bible descended through the family of Jacob Brubeck (1762-1838) of the Waynesboro/Stuarts Draft area of Virginia and was given to Washington and Lee in 1989 by Anne A. Kerr, a direct descendant of Brubeck. The piece contains four pages of handwritten Brubeck family history. Because it is a large folio volume that is frequently displayed, the Bible requires restoration, which will include surface cleaning, text block consolidation, and reattachment of linings and endbands. The conservation proposal also includes repair of endpapers and interior hinges with Japanese paper, and securing the bosses and existing straps. The final option is the crafting of a custom clamshell box with laser-printed label and padded lining.

The total cost for the proposed conservation work is $3,410.

If you are interested in adopting this Martin Luther Bible, please contact Tom Camden, head of Special Collections & Archives, at 540-458-8649 or by email at camdent@wlu.edu. Help preserve a piece of the past.
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Carter Malmo ’13
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Mary Lynn & Steve Marks ’59
Will Martin ’03
Lee Maslansky
LeeAnn & Roy Matthews ’54
Walt Matthews ’59
Donna Maytham *
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Robert McCully
Kip & Joe McDaniel 65
Nancy McIntyre
Harlen McMurray *
Jackie & Don McMillan ’72, ’75L
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Kathy & Duncan Meldrum P’99
Shelley Mendell
Miller Merchant '16
Yolanda Merrill
Phillip Mollere *
Jessie Monaghan ’79L
Abby Montgomery ’02
Lisa & Bill Moore
Ed Moore ’74
Guillermo Moran Ayrollo
Barbara & David Muller
Janet & Mike Nation ’67
Mary Newman
Ann & Christ Nicolich
Alison Perine & Will Olson ’98
Rick Olson ’66
Leland Park
Ruth Parsons
Tara Patterson ’98
Cathy & Tom Pelnik P’15
David Peterson
Martine & Joe Petite
Harry Porter ’54
Leslie & Bill Potter
Diane & Maury Purnell ’61
Pete Rathbone ’11
Pree & George Ray
James Redford ’76
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Robert Root Jr. *  
Margaret Root *  
Celeste Romig  
Jim Sagner '62  
Beverly & Gorman Schaffer  
Baxter Sharp '88  
Tucker Shields '72  
Pat & Bill Shropshire '57  
Shirley Shugart P'87  
Margaret & Joe Skovira  
Mary Ward & Jim Slack  
Alison & Jamie Small '81  
Dee & Glen Smith  
Carol & Shark Smith '84  
Wendy & Gil Smith '68  
Anne & Ray Smith '55  
Hatton Smith '73  
Larry Spurgeon  
Eve & Dan Stacey '75L  
Tad & Vaughan Stanley  
Marjorie & Anderson Stone '65  
Jo & Henry Strouss '61  
Nancy & Bruce Summers  
Sam Syne '56 *  
Merrily Taylor  
Laura Taylor '91  
Tamara & Richard Teaff  
Elizabeth Teaff  
John Thelin  
Alicia Brandt Thoms '02 & Zach Thoms  

Carolyn Tilford  
John & Sherri Tombarge  
Lee & Tom Touchton '60  
Brenda & Wave Townes P'96 '96L  
Michelle & Neil Treger '79  
Beverly & Spencer Tucker  
Glenn Updike III *  
Genene & Daniel Uyesato  
Ronald Vallone  
Ellen & Rob Vaughan '66  
Karen & Sandy Walton '62, '65L  
Mame Warren  
Missy & Richard Weaver '96  
Katherine & Jim Weingart '60  
Beth & John Weiss P'14  
Clarice Welchans  
Carol & Lyn Wheeler P'03  
Sally Wiant '75L  
Margaret & Chris Wigert '65  
Ernest Williams III *  
Lynn & Tom Williams  
Sara Williams  
Lynn Bazzel Wilmoth '10 & Sam Wilmoth '09  
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