

# Chronicle

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## Hallblade to guide Library during interim period

Shirley Hallblade, associate director of libraries since 1984, has been named acting director of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library by Provost Thomas G. Burish.

"Shirley Hallblade has actively participated in and contributed to the administration of the Heard Library over the past several years," Burish said.

"On the basis of her experience, she has already formulated a number of important goals for the Library and will continue to help it move forward on several different fronts. She is eminently qualified and well prepared to provide strong leadership in the year ahead."

Burish will name a search committee to find a successor to Malcolm Getz, who resigned this past summer as associate provost for information services and technology and director of the Heard Library (please see additional article, pages 4 and 5).

"I appreciate very much the privilege and opportunity to serve in this interim year following the decade of Malcolm Getz's leadership," Hallblade said.

Hallblade came to Vanderbilt in 1980 as director of the Walker Management Library at the Owen Graduate School of Management. Before joining Vanderbilt, she was manager of the reference services branch of the Mississippi Research and Development Center.

A native of Minnesota, Hallblade received a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in educational administration, an M.A. in library science from Northern Illinois University, and a B.A. in education from Roosevelt University, Chicago. She has studied in the Federal Republic of Germany on a Fulbright grant and was a Senior Fellow at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at UCLA in 1987.

Hallblade was an assistant professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Mississippi from 1975 to 1978 and a special research assistant at the University of Iowa's Division of Educational Administration. She has also worked as a college librarian and elementary school teacher.



*Shirley Hallblade*

A participant in Vanderbilt's Leadership Development Program in 1994, Hallblade also chaired the Faculty-Staff Campaign in 1988.

### *Strengths for the Future*

In a recent interview with the CHRONICLE, Hallblade discussed the strengths of the Library and some of her goals for the coming year.

"Our Library enjoys a strong foundation in collections and electronic information resources," she said. "We are also fortunate to have a competent and dedicated staff who have proven ready to experiment, be creative, and put their energies into the improvement of services."

"One of my primary goals will be to develop and strengthen staffing and communication with our constituencies in ways that will position us to help the new director move the Library forward."

Another challenge, she said, will be to take Acorn to "the next level."

*(Please turn to page 2)*

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# New poetry database simplifies humanities research

The Heard Library recently acquired the largest full-text database yet published in the humanities. *The English Poetry Full-Text Database* consists of poetry from the Anglo Saxon period to the end of the nineteenth century.

It features 1,350 of the most famous English poets, as well as works in English of Welsh, Scottish, and Irish poets. It also includes children's verse, hymns published before 1800 A.D., verse dramas, and poetry written between 600 and 1900 A.D. but not published until after 1900.

The new database can be used in research and teaching, for reference, or merely for pleasure. Instructors, students, and Library patrons can access the database through a computer terminal in the Central Library Reference Room.

To find a particular poem, users simply look at the table of contents much as they would with a book from the Library's shelf. The information is stored on levels beginning with the poet's name, then the specific volume, and finally the individual poem.

The new database will simplify research in the field of English poetry. No longer must students search through poem after poem to find that certain verse, phrase, or epigraph. Instead, they can locate a specific poem by entering a key word from the poem, words in the title, key phrases, or words in the epigraph. Searches are also available using specific information about the poet or poem, such as the poet's name, dates, bibliographic information, and the place of publication.

Included in each entry is the entire text of the poem or verse and accompanying text, such as dedications, prologues, epigraphs, footnotes, side notes, and endnotes. For those who need to cite the poem in a bibliography, the database contains in-print sources of all works and includes page breaks, page numbers,

and other essential information specific to printed editions.

Since many poems in the new database are out of copyright, users can reproduce quickly and inexpensively their own copies or anthologies directly from the database. They simply choose the works to be read and discussed and print those from the computer. Any notes or questions the instructor or student might want to add can be typed directly onto the page before printing.

Researchers can also use the database to compare poetic imagery of different periods, analyze diverse stylistics and linguistics, and research the history of word usage and patterns since the inception of English poetry and verse.

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## Hallblade...

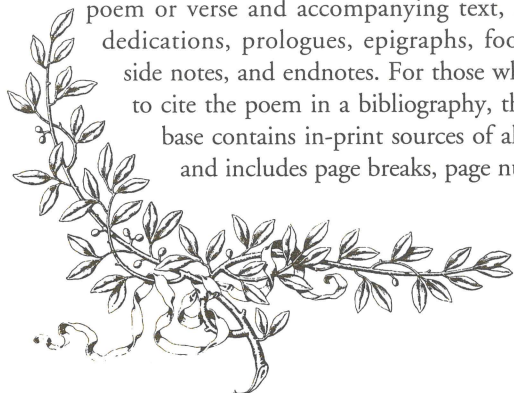
"Library users can now locate information and material quickly and efficiently through our on-line catalogue and other databases," she said.

"We hope to build on the Library's present capabilities by taking advantage of opportunities offered by Internet and other technological developments to access information worldwide."

As in the past, the Friends of the Library will play an important role in the future of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library.

"The Friends of the Library have been a wonderful source of support on many different levels," Hallblade said. "They have helped raise funds for acquisitions and special projects. We need to continue that friendship and broaden that base of support by letting others who love libraries, books, and information share that story and find ways to make the Library even better.

"With the arrival of Peggy Culp, our new development officer, we will be looking at new ways of providing resources and funds for the Library during the final year of The Campaign for Vanderbilt."



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## Jane Wagner: Volunteer extraordinaire

Over the years, the Jean and Alexander Heard Library has benefitted from the service of many fine volunteers. These individuals are motivated by concern for the collections plus an indefatigable interest in learning and literature. One of the finest volunteers of this description is Jane Wagner.

For more than fifteen years, Wagner has visited the Central Library every week to catalog a special collection of approximately 9,000 paintings known as the "Picture File." This collection is used not only by faculty and students in fine arts, but also by many other individuals interested in studying reproductions of outstanding art.

Wagner adds several hundred paintings to this collection each year. Her work involves detailed research and classification of each picture and the preparation of catalog cards and labels. She also oversees the catalog file and the shelf list for the collection.

In recent years, Wagner has taken on the additional responsibility of planning and preparing library exhibits pertaining to the arts collections. The exhibits are installed in display cases at various locations in the Central Library. Recent exhibits have featured Thomas Eakins, Henri Matisse, Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel, and Andrea Mantegna. Wagner also prepares exhibits displaying art books newly added to the collections. Popular Library features that are regularly checked by readers, the exhibits have boosted the circulation of arts publications.

Wagner's love of the arts is long-standing. With a degree in art from Hunter College, she has expanded her knowledge by pursuing additional studies in the field. She has brought back fresh insights and ideas to apply to her work with the Heard Library from her frequent trips to galleries and museums in this country and abroad. A lover of books, her wide-ranging interests include literature and history, which dovetail nicely with her work at the Library.

Knowledge, interest, and ability, however, do not paint the whole picture. To those qualities must be added Wagner's uncommon generosity.



*For the past fifteen years, volunteer Jane Wagner has researched, catalogued, and mounted thousands of paintings for the "Picture File."*

Without her unselfish efforts, the "Picture File" would have languished long ago and the exhibits would have been few and far between. The Jean and Alexander Heard Library is truly fortunate in having an outstanding volunteer like Jane Wagner.



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# Friends gather at “Meeting of the Waters”



*Ridley Wills, right, welcomes Betty and Ed Thackston to his home, “Meeting of the Waters.”*



*Fred Cowden and Elinor Ewing were among 100 guests at the Friends of the Library spring meeting.*

About 100 Friends of the Library bid farewell to former Library director Malcolm Getz at their annual spring meeting in May.

Heard Society member Ridley Wills and his wife, Irene Jackson Wills, hosted the affair at “Meeting of the Waters,” their newly restored home in Williamson County.

Friends president Jim Auer thanked the Wills for opening their historic home and gardens to the group. The house was built in the early 1800s by Thomas Perkins, a Wills ancestor, at the confluence of the Big Harpeth and the West Harpeth Rivers—hence its name. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

During the brief program, Kathryn Smith, chair of the Heard Society steering committee, paid tribute to Getz, calling him “the man of the hour and of the decade” for his contributions to the Jean and Alexander Heard Library.

Chief among those accomplishments was computerization of the Library’s holdings, said Fran Hardy, chair of acquisitions for the Heard Library.

“Automation made it easier to access all the collections in the Library,” Hardy said. “Thanks to Malcolm, the Friends of the Library, and the Heard Library Society, the Library made greater strides in collections than we could have hoped.”



*Jim and Judith Auer, right, pay their respects to Ruthann and Malcolm Getz.*

Provost Thomas G. Burish praised Getz for his leadership as associate provost for information services and technology.

“Malcolm Getz helped make Vanderbilt an early leader in the use of integrated library automation systems,” Burish said, “but his impact goes much beyond this and touches virtually every aspect of the Library.”

Auer called Getz a “pathfinder” and the Heard Library a “precursor of things to come for all libraries” with the advent of the information superhighway.

As a token of the Friends’ esteem, Auer presented Getz with a caricature by Robert Durham, BA ’76, whose parents, Walter and Anna Durham, are loyal Library supporters.



*The Friends enjoyed Irene Wills’s lovely gardens.*

*(Please turn to page 6)*

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## Meeting...

The original drawing by the Connecticut artist shows Getz being carried away by several animated computers.

Getz plans to take a year's leave of absence before returning full-time to teaching and research in 1995-96 as associate professor of economics. He will spend the year at the University of Missouri at Columbia, complete several journal articles on higher education with fellow Vanderbilt economist John Siegfried, and "look for another big venture."



*Auer, left, presents Getz with a caricature by Connecticut artist Robert Durham.*



*Alexander Heard and Malcolm Getz recall 1984, the year the Library received a new name in honor of the former and a new director in the latter.*



*Librarian Jean Wright, left, visits with Fred and Kay Russell.*

## Warren to address Friends

Rosanna Warren, assistant professor of English at Boston University and the daughter of Fugitive poet Robert Penn Warren, will speak at the Friends of the Library annual dinner, Monday, January 23, 1995, at the Stadium Club. Warren holds a B.A. from Yale and an M.A. from Johns Hopkins University. She is the author of several poetry volumes, including *Stained Glass* (W.W. Norton & Company, 1993). Watch your mail for further details.

## Poindexter book fund started

A book fund has been established at the Heard Library to honor John W. Poindexter, BA'46, MA'48, whose association with Vanderbilt spans more than fifty years.

Efforts are underway to endow the John W. Poindexter Book Acquisition Fund in the Jean and Alexander Heard Library. The endowment will be used to purchase general collections, a priority of The Campaign for Vanderbilt. Persons wishing to contribute to the fund should contact the Library Development Office at (615) 322-7102.

Poindexter joined the Vanderbilt administration in 1971 as vice-chancellor for alumni and development affairs. He subsequently served as vice-chancellor for alumni affairs, director of the Vanderbilt University Press, recording secretary of the Board of Trust, alumni secretary and director of special events, and conservator of University history. He retired from his administrative post in July 1993, and has spent the past year speaking about the Campaign to alumni groups across the country.

## Culp named Library development director

Peggy Culp has been appointed director of development for the Library, succeeding Bill Mott, who resigned to start his own consulting firm. Culp has worked in alumni and development at Vanderbilt for nine years, most recently as director of the Reunion Office. Prior to that position, she was director of development for Peabody College. In addition to her work for the Library, Culp will also raise funds for the Graduate School and the University Press.



*Walter Durham, right, chair of the Heard Library Society, presents Irwin and Annette Eskind a certificate of Library leadership at the Heard Society's annual dinner.*



*Mary Jane and Albert Werthan visit with Sarah Howell, right, at the dinner, which took place in June at the new Irwin and Annette Eskind Biomedical Library.*



## *Make a Difference. Be a Friend.*

The Jean and Alexander Heard Library is at the heart of Vanderbilt University's academic mission. Excellence in teaching and research can be sustained only when excellence in libraries is maintained. Because of ever-increasing pressures on University resources, the continued generosity of Friends of the Library is critical to ensure superior library collections and services. You can support Vanderbilt's mission by sending your gift with the completed form below. If you are already a member of the Friends, you can help further by passing along this copy of the CHRONICLE to someone else who might find it of interest.

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