Twenty years ago, Jennifer Clark ’95 worked with Sharon Byrd in the library’s Reference Department. At Davidson, she majored in history, later pursuing master’s degrees in Near Eastern Languages and Culture from Indiana University Bloomington, and Library Science from UNC Chapel Hill. Today, she is an archivist at the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Mo. The Arch is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, so it is an exciting time to be associated with this national landmark. We recently posed several questions to Jennifer regarding this unique librarianship opportunity.

What is it like to work in a library at one of the nation’s most iconic landmarks—The Gateway Arch?

It is always interesting. Working with the National Park Service in any site is an amazing privilege, but here I think it is really stimulating because the park’s mission covers so many topics. Just this year I’ve done research in our collections about westward expansion, modernist architecture, civil rights, the Lewis and Clark expedition, pioneer journeys, the French colonial society of St. Louis, the process of making dioramas in the 1930s and the preservation of mid-century monuments. One really great perk of working with the Park Service is that I’ve been sent to training sessions at other amazing parks, including Indiana Dunes and the Grand Canyon.

We are now in the middle of a very large renewal project with many park partners. The iconic Museum of Westward Expansion under the Gateway Arch is no more and will be replaced by a new, high-tech museum opening in 2017. I worked on the team that designed the temporary exhibits for visitors at the Old Courthouse while the main museum is under construction. I’ve also helped the firm designing the main museum as they worked with our historian and conducted a detailed inspection of the collections to decide what would be a part of the new exhibits. Once the new museum is open, we’ll be redoing the exhibits in the Old Courthouse to reflect the history of that building and the early judicial system in St. Louis.

We had a very exciting project this year as a high risk ropes team did an investigation of the staining of the Gateway Arch. They’ve done really intensive research in the archives into the construction history to find out where the stains could have originated, and in what stage of the process the metal was affected. This year they actually got out and hung off the Arch on specialized equipment designed to fit the structure. There is not enough money in the world to convince me to do that. The videos are terrifying.

How did your Davidson education lead you to your work in librarianship and archives?

I feel very fortunate that I get to make use of my history major and my library experience at Davidson in my current position. While at Davidson, I worked at the reference desk as an assistant to Sharon Byrd, at the circulation desk, in the archives for Chalmers Davidson and in cataloguing as well, so I really got a great, rounded experience of library work. I think a lot of people find a refuge in libraries, which was certainly the case for me. I didn’t expect to go into it as a career, but when I did having the previous experience was very helpful.

> Jennifer Clark ’95
How has technology changed the way you present your collection to the public and the world?

Our archives used to send paper copies of our detailed finding aids to a handful of institutions, and other than using those, it was really just by chance that people came across our collections. Now with finding aids fully searchable online, people can really get in touch with us. The National Park Service has one of the largest and most diverse cultural and natural history collections in the country, but people generally don’t think about the parks in that capacity. Using the Internet, the Park Service is really able to make many of these collections more accessible.

We are also very happy to be able to share things on social media, we have had a great response to historical photos shared on the park’s Facebook page and the park’s flickr site. We’re trying to identify some of the construction workers in photos of Gateway Arch construction that wouldn’t have been possible without this technology.

What new projects or initiatives are you working on?

Trying to get a handle on a good way to store and preserve our digital images and share them with the public. This year we plan to launch a new portal of NPS Focus, the service-wide portal for accessing photos, devoted just to our collections.

What is your favorite memory of Davidson College?

It is hard to narrow it down! Perhaps watching Christmas cartoons in the 900 Room after final exams, and then standing around with friends singing Christmas carols while watching someone rappel down Chambers dressed as Santa Claus. I have a very strong memory of sitting on the couch in our senior apartment with my roommates right after our graduation ceremony. We were all about to go our separate ways and leave Davidson, where we had been so happy, but that’s certainly bittersweet.

How do you still benefit from your Davidson experience?

Studying history at Davidson was tremendously useful in my job. The park encompasses not only the Gateway Arch, but also St. Louis’s Old Courthouse, which was the location of the first Dred Scott trial and the site of over 300 freedom suits filed by enslaved persons trying to win their freedom. Having the historical context in which to place these kinds of events is pretty crucial for a good understanding of the importance of the site and our role in interpreting this history to our visitors.

What are you reading now?

Marie Kondo’s The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up. I can’t agree with Kondo on discarding papers, though, she is pretty ruthless on that subject. I have letters from Davidson friends written during vacations that I’m certainly going to keep. Letters are definitely a historical artifact at this point. It is kind of embarrassing that somebody who is supposed to organize things for a living needs this book, but it’s been very helpful at home!

I’m also reading Ta-Nehisi Coates’ Between the World and Me, the issues of race and civil rights are on everyone’s minds right now. We are located close to Ferguson and with the history of the Old Courthouse being both where Dred Scott made a bold stand for his freedom, and a site of slave auctions, people are making interpretive connections with the death of Michael Brown and coming to the Courthouse on a kind of pilgrimage. One of our interpreters is from Ferguson and led an education session for our rangers about his experiences growing up there and his experiences as a ranger. We learned a great deal and are trying to be there for people making connections with the history of the Courthouse. The park education staff has also been working with schoolchildren in Ferguson, both visiting their schools and bringing them to the Old Courthouse. The past is very much with us in the present, working with the National Park Service, it is important for me to be there for our visitors as they make their own connections to the past.

Contemporary, Colorful and Versatile New Furniture for the Library

Periodically, the library asks students, faculty and staff to complete a “Measuring Information Service Outcomes” (MISO) survey. After receiving and analyzing the results from this year’s survey, the library has acquired some new furniture that we hope will satisfy some of the requests we received.

On the first floor of the library, visitors entering the building will notice new, contemporary, colorful furniture. We’ve reorganized this area to maximize the amount of study space it can accommodate by installing group tables and light moveable chairs. This study area can be used as a collaborative space for students or as an impromptu faculty and student meeting area. These workspaces also include power connections and umbrella-like screens that act as sound barriers and help to reduce excess noise.

Additionally, the library now has study areas that allow for standing, situated next to the Writing Center. Students, faculty and staff can choose to sit or stand at their convenience. The new furniture adds options for people working in the library that we hope are well-received and well-used.
Sharon Byrd shares her thoughts about spending a week at Rare Book School in Washington, D.C., this past summer.

Founded in 1983 at Columbia University, Rare Book School moved to UVA in 1992. Not just for librarians, Rare Book School offers weeklong classes, taught by experts in their fields, in June and July to those interested in all aspects of “rare books.” Initially dealing primarily with books and manuscripts, classes have expanded to include all areas of the history of written, printed and digital materials. Classes have also expanded to some satellite sites, including the Library of Congress this year. Students include librarians, dealers in antiquarian books, book collectors, conservators, teachers and students (professional or avocational). Classes are small (usually about 12 students), so students really get to know each other and work closely together for the week. Entry is competitive, so I was excited to get my acceptance letter this year for “The Art and Science of Cartography.”

The course was taught by John Hessler, currently the curator of the Jay I. Kislak Collection of the Archaeology and History of the Early Americas, and a specialist in Modern Cartography and Geographic Information Science at the Library of Congress. I was in class with students from California, Virginia, Kentucky, New York, Massachusetts, Washington, D.C., Missouri, Utah and Connecticut, including librarians, map specialists, students, professors, a map conservator and a church historian. We began with a discussion of Ptolemy, Greek astronomer of the 2nd century, who invented the concepts of latitude and longitude and the idea of map projection. We examined maps, atlases and globes produced between 200 and 1550, from early Roman boundary maps to the 1507 Waldseemüller World Map—the first map to show and use the name “America.” The map is now on permanent display in the Library of Congress’ Jefferson building. We talked about the history and production of the maps, and as the class title indicates, discussed both scientific and artistic innovations related to mapmaking. We also talked about digital representations of maps and modern software that allows for more overlay and comparison of ancient and modern maps.

The week also included evening lectures, a “museum night” during which we were able to see some of the treasures of the library and a visit to the Jefferson Building to see the maps on display there.

Since our Rare Book Room houses the William P. Cumming Map Collection of the Southeast in Early Maps, I am interested in applying what I learned in class to the use of those maps with our students and scholars.

Welcome New Employee Sarah Crissinger

Sarah Crissinger, our newest research librarian, began working with the Information Literacy team in mid-July. Originally from Ohio, Sarah received her Bachelor of Arts in English and Women’s Studies from Wright State University in Dayton. She graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Master’s of Science in Library and Information Science in May. While at Illinois, she held graduate assistantships in the reference and information literacy departments where she created workshops and tutorials on library resources and scholarly communication issues. Sarah is interested in open access publishing, open educational resources and alternative metrics, and how these relate to digital scholarship and challenging information privilege at Davidson.

Since Sarah is new to the area, she has set a personal goal of traveling to a new destination in the Carolinas and the south once each month. She has ventured to Raleigh, Chapel Hill, Asheville and sections of the Appalachian Mountains. In addition to exploring her new surroundings, she enjoys spending time with her Yorkie, Wrigley, as well as reading and blogging.

In her role as an information literacy librarian at Davidson, she will have many opportunities to meet members of the Davidson College community. She will be teaching library sessions in which she helps students become aware of the various resources available to them. She will also have one-on-one interactions with students when she provides research consultations to those working on papers and projects. Furthermore, she will interact with faculty as she prepares course-specific research sessions. We are thrilled that Sarah has joined our staff and we hope you’ll stop by her office to say hello.
HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Each year, we are so grateful for the generosity of people who contribute in many different ways to the library. The following lists encapsulate some of the ways people honor loved ones, friends, esteemed scholars and others through their contributions. You’ll find contributions to existing endowed funds, book and archival donations, and funds given by the Alumni Office to memorialize former students. To all who have honored us this year with gifts, we extend our most heartfelt thanks. Your gifts greatly enhance our collection and the educational experience of Davidson students. These lists reflect gift donations from September 15, 2014 through September 15, 2015.

Library Gifts

Dr. Anthony Abbott
Dr. Peter J. Ahrensdorf
Ms. Vitalina Alfonso
Mr. Kemmer Anderson ’67
Mrs. Rose K. Anderson
Dr. Ronald Atkinson
Dr. Ruth Ault
Mr. Robert N. Bailey II ’96
Mr. James R. Barrat ’83
Ms. Jane Boone
Dr. Dan M. Boye
Ms. Susanna Boylston
Mrs. Beverly Brandt
Ms. Paige Buckland ’17
Mr. Gilbert Capps Jr. ’91
Mrs. R. A. Carson
Mr. Robert A. Carson Jr.
Dr. Timothy P. Chartier
Mr. Matthew Clifford ’01
Ms. Naomi Coffman
’16
Dr. Joel O. Conarroe ’56
Mr. Ed Conley
Dr. Thomas S. Conner ’77
Ms. Lauren Elizabeth Corbett ’87
Ms. Mary Cousar Coxe
Dr. Gregory A. Crawford ’78
Dr. Deborah H. Davis ’77
Dr. Robert D. Denham ’61
Dr. Alicia M. Dewey ’84
Mr. Richard Dobson
Ms. Leslie Wright Dow
Dr. Bill Dubose ’50
Ms. Page Grey Dudley
Ms. Bridget L. Ely
Dr. Stephen Enniss ’82
Rev. John Evans ’50
Mr. Jack Ferguson ’40
Judge Victor Fleming ’73
The Rev. Dirk A. French ’89
Mr. James Gant
Dr. John R. Gerdy ’79
Mr. James B. Gillespie Jr. ’71
Mr. Jerry Godbehere ’74
Dr. James C. Goodloe IV ’75
Dr. Rufus Hallmark ’65
Mr. Christopher B. Harbin
Mr. David Nicholas Harling ’01
Mr. James Harrington
Dr. John A. Heitmann ’70
Ms. Virginia Hitchman
Dr. and Mrs. Gill and Siri Holland
Mr. J. G. Holland Jr.
Dr. Pierce J. Howard ’63
Mrs. Karl Hudson
Dr. Angela E. Isenberg
Ms. Margaret Westwood Jackson ’81
Ms. Trish Johnstone
Dr. Grant D. Jones
Dr. Rebecca S. Joubin
Dr. Michael D. Kennedy ’79
Ms. Susan M. Kerr
Dr. Peter M. Krentz
Mr. Omar Laafoura ’09
Ms. Erin S. Lane ’06
Dr. Samuel Robert Latham Jr. ’59
Mrs. Heath Hardage Lee ’92
Major Katrina Anne Lehman ’87
Mr. Paul R. Leonard Jr. ’62
Dr. Cynthia Lewis
Mr. R. Stewart Lillard ’62
Dr. William A. Link ’76
Ms. Van Lear Logan
Dr. Magdalena M. Maiz-Pena
Rev. Frank Mansell Jr. ’62
Dr. Amanda R. Martinez
Dr. Margaret R. McCarthy
Ms. Marjorie C. McCeney ’90
Dr. Mark McCulloh
Mr. Smith McKeithen ’65
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph L. McMillan
Dr. Sally McMillen
Mr. Chuck McShane
Dr. Ann Merrill
Rev. John N. Miller ’49
Dr. Richard L. Morgan ’50
Dr. Michael C. Munger ’80
Ms. Sarah Nock ’83
Dr. Lou Ortmary
Dr. Leland M. Park ’63
Dr. Saeyoung Park
Mr. Donald F. Parman ’72
Dr. W. Creighton Peden ’57
Dr. David N. Pfohl ’65
Dr. Robert Phay
Dr. Julian M. Pleasants ’60
Ms. Jane Powell
Mr. Michael J. Raymond
Col. William F. Rawley ’48
Dr. Shelley E. Rigger
Mrs. Jeanette Roberts
Mr. James H. Robinson III ’68
Dr. Larry Arch Rogers ’61
Ms. Courtney Ruth ’15
Dr. Bob Ruth
Mrs. Nan Seamans
Dr. Ali Selim
Dr. Randolph P. Shaffner ’62
Mr. Stan Shelley
Eric Shoaf
Ms. Caroline M. Siegfried ’95
Dr. Alan J. Singerman
Mr. and Mrs. Jack and Margaret Smith ’83
Mrs. Nelle McCants Smith
Mr. Stephen Jerome Smith ’78
Steele Creek Historical & Genealogical Society
Mrs. Joan C. Steven
Ms. Allene B. Stevens
Dr. Archibald B. Taylor Jr. ’42
Dr. Job Thomas
Dr. Kathie Turner
Dr. Shaun Clifton Tyrance ’00
Ms. Beth Van Gorp
Dr. Christine W. Vance
Mr. Peter Varney ’96
Dr. Mary S. Vasquez
Mr. Ben Vernon ’50
Dr. Mariet Westermann
Dr. Frank T. White ’57
Dr. Laureen L. Whitelaw
Dr. Alden Williams ’54
Dr. Thomas Jefferson Bell Jr. ’66
Ms. Cristina Wilson ’10
Mr. L. Lamar Wilson
Mrs. Elizabeth J. Wintemute ’85
Rev. Angie Wright ’78
Mr. Calvin G. Zon ’66

Gifts from the Davidson College Alumni Association Given in Memory of Alumni

Ms. Vanessa Yvette Adams ’82
Dr. George Andrew Aggett ’61
Mr. Dewitt Roy Alexander ’64
Mr. Thomas Baine Anderson Jr. ’65
Mr. Thomas Arthur Anstrom ’76
Mr. Ray Mills Antley, MD ’59
Dr. Daniel David Bahmiller ’94
Mr. Daniel Currie Bell ’51
Dr. Thomas Jefferson Bell Jr. ’42
Col. Henry Maynard Bellamy Jr., M.D. ’54
Mr. Alonzo Plumb Boardman ’54
Dr. Allan Whitworth Bosch ’47
Mr. William Alfred Boyd ’39
Mr. Riley Augustus Bradham Jr. ’45
Dr. Ralph Elbert Brooks Jr. ’51
Mr. Cecil Kenneth Brown Jr. ’45
Dr. Michael Ernest Bumgarner ’70
Mr. Joseph Lee Burdette ’64
Dr. Thomas Price Caldwell Jr. ’62
Col. Frank Crossland Caldwell, USMC (Ret.) ’42
Mr. Murdoch McKelway Calhoun ’50
The Hon. Hugh Brown Campbell Jr. ’59
Mr. Clayton C. Carpenter Jr. ’49
The Monna D. Conn Fund
The George C. Covington ’75 Fund
The James Robert Covington ’29 Fund
The Ben T. Craig ’54 Fund
The Crawford Fund
The William Patterson Cumming ’21 Fund
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Cunningham III ’79
The Gladys Potts Cunningham Fund
The W. Ray Cunningham ’51 Fund
The Henry Fitzhugh Dade ’38 Fund
The Tom Daggy Fund
The Chalmers Gaston Davidson ’28 Fund
Mrs. Loyce S. Davis
The Loyce Sherrill Davis Fund
Mrs. Loyce S. Davis
The Charles L. Dibble ’65 Fund
The Arthur Prim Dickens Jr. ’68 Fund
The Charles Alexander Dixon ’18 Fund
The Charles Dwin Dockery Fund
The Joseph Turpin Drake ’34 Fund
Mr. and Mrs. King Mawhinney ’71
Mr. and Mrs. King Mawhinney ’71 in honor of Dr. Drake at Christmas
The Duke Endowment Fund
The Darrell & Abbey Dupler Fund
The Fay Ross Dwellie Fund
The Nathaniel Cabot Earle Jr. ’01 Fund
The Emma Clyde Clyde Hodge Memorial Fund
The Edgar Family Fund
Dr. Walter B. Edgar ’65
The English Family Fund
The Ursula Fogleran Fund
The Carole Anne Folger, M.D. ’78 Fund
The Margaret Walker Freel Fund
The Dirk French Fund
The Harry L. & Frances Ford Fry Fund
The Wilbur L. Fugate ’34 Fund
The John Bryant ’25 & Louise C. Gallent Fund
The Joseph Gillespie Gamble Sr. and the Connie Williamson Gamble Fund
Mr. Joseph G. Gamble ’38
The Joe P. Gates Fund
The Harry Goodwin & Lois Gaw Fund
The Rachel Helen Mckenzie Gaynor Fund
Mr. Edward F. Gaynor Jr. ’81
The Francis Ghigo ’29 Fund
The Robert D. Gilmer ’50 Fund
The August V. Goldiere Fund
The Gorham Book Fund
The Rev. Gregory M. ’60 & Janice T. Grana Fund
The James Thomas Grey ’65 Fund
Mr. William D. Carroll Jr. ’67
The Arthur Gwynn Griffin Fund
The F. David Grissett ’72 Fund
The Lucile S. & James R. Gudger, M.D. ’25 Fund
The William Joseph Haley III ’80 Fund
The Lucy Farrow Hall Fund
The Warner Leander Hall Sr. Fund
The Scott Allan Harbottle ’78 Book Fund
Dr. James William Gaynor ’78
Mr. David Stewart Yandle ’78
The Angie Murray Harris Fund
The Madge Sadler Hayes Fund
The James P. Hendrix Sr. ’25 Fund
The William Blannie Hight Jr. Fund
Mrs. Loyce S. Davis
The James Henry Hill 1854 & James Lolo Hill 1884 Fund
The James William Howard Fund
The William Mayhew Hunter Jr. ’31 Fund
The Robert Bruce Jackson Jr. ’50 Fund
The General T.J. Stonewall Jackson Fund
The William Howard Jetton ’30 Fund
The Clifford P. Johnson ’77 Fund
The Edward P. & Sarah Johnson Fund
The Frontis Withers Johnston ’30 Fund
The Jones Family Fund
Dr. Richard H. Jones ’86
The Keiser Family Fund
Mr. Albert Keiser Jr. ’66
The Kendrick K. Kelley III ’63 Fund
The Lois Anne Kemp Fund
Dr. George Wilkinson Pee ’74
The Laurence Davies Jr. ’29 & Mary Fuss Kirkland Fund
The William Alexander ’34 & Helon Wilkerson Kirkland Fund
The Sandor Kiss Fund
Ms. Barbara E. Kiss
Mrs. Eva J. Kiss
The Peter S. Knox Jr. ’32 Fund
The James Bell Kuykendall Jr. ’27 Fund
The John Wells Kuykendall ’59 Fund
Mrs. Loyce S. Davis
The Zac Lacy ’97 Fund
Ms. Joselyn S. Lewis ’97
Dr. Irene Jane Middleton ’00
The Helen Bewley Lamon Fund
Fidelity Charitable
Mr. Harry V. Lamon Jr. ’54
The Lisa V. Landoe ’10 and Michael F. Anderson ’02 Fund
The Emmie Frances Bledsoe Lester Fund
The Malcolm Lester Fund
The Malcolm Nicholson Lester Fund
The Pauline Domingos Lester Fund
The Collier Cobb Lily ’89 Fund
The Grace Greene Lilly Fund
The Henry T. Lilly ’18 Fund
The Caroline Jane Little ’02 Fund
Professor and Mrs. Joseph W. Little
The Charles Edward Lloyd Fund
The Rev. Ann Sheaffer Gibert ’81
Mr. James McKain Gibert III ’79
Mr. Harry Truman Goldman III ’70
The Fay Cox and Zachary F. Long, M.D. Fund
The Steven H. Lonsdale Fund
The Gail Yarsley Lowery Fund
The John S. Lyles ’50 Fund
The Rev. Dr. John S. Lyles ’50
The William K. Mahony Fund
The Samuel Dow Maloney ’48 Fund
The Robert David Margolis, M.D. ’75 Fund
The J. Chalmers Marrow ’28 Fund
The John Alexander Jr. ’39 & Lucy Worth Mawhinney Fund
Mr. J. Alexander Mawhinney III in honor of John and Lucy at Christmas
Mr. and Mrs. King Mawhinney ’71 in memory of John on his birthday
Mr. and Mrs. King Mawhinney ’71 in honor of Lucy on her birthday
Mr. and Mrs. King Mawhinney ’71 in memory of John on Father’s Day
Dr. Leland M. Park ’63
Ms. Wendy Mayer Roberts
The Charles K. ’49 & Dorothy Jane Moore Maxwell Fund
The Mary Elizabeth Mayhew Fund
The Harvey Edward McConnell, M.D. ’36 Fund
The Marjorie M. McCutchan Fund
The Mary Wettling McGaw Fund
The William G. McGavock ’30 Fund
The John Alexander McGeachy Jr. ’34 Fund
Mrs. Barbara D. McGeachy
IBM Matching gift
Mr. Lon Snelson ’59
The John Lacy McLean Jr. ’43 Fund
The Gordon E. McMain Fund
Dr. Herman S. Caldwell Jr. ’67
The William Melvin Means ’40 Fund
Mr. James Dean Patterson ’89
The F. Dewolfe ’20 & Wilhelmina Livingston Miller Fund
The J. Joseph Miller ’50 Fund
The George L. Milne Fund
The Alexander S. Sandy Moffett ’37 Fund
The William Andrew Moffett Fund
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Hynds ’85/’84
The William Lauder Morgan ’20 Fund
The Harvey L. Morrison ’33 Fund
The Matthew Edward Morrow Fund
The William Fredrick Mulliss ’33 Fund
The Myers Park Presbyterian Church Fund
The Rolfe Neill Fund
The C. Louise Nelson Fund
The Randy F. Nelson Fund
The Samuel William Newell Jr. ’39 Fund
The Samuel William Newell Sr. Fund
The Jane Harris & Jill Morrison Nierenberg Fund
The Mary Winston Crockett Norfleet Fund
The William Alton Norris Jr. ’72 Fund
Mr. Greg Anderson and Mrs. Helen Samuels ’72