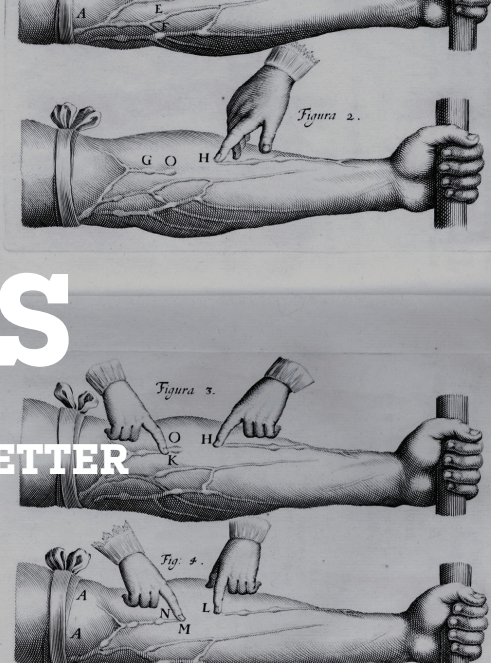




# TREASURES

## UAB LIBRARIES HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS NEWSLETTER



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sent to [akaetz95@uab.edu](mailto:akaetz95@uab.edu).

## Welcome Jason Byrd, Assistant Dean of UAB Historical Collections

Greetings!

As the new Assistant Dean for Historical Collections at UAB Libraries, I am delighted to build on the successes of the Reynolds-Finley Historical Library, the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, and the UAB Archives. It is an honor to be asked to join this team of amazing professionals who have diligently preserved the historic materials, instruments, and records in these three units.

I came to UAB Libraries from the University of Arkansas Fort Smith, where I was Director of Library Services. Previously, I was Associate Dean for Research and User Engagement at Adelphi University Libraries in Garden City, New York. I am a graduate of the University of Alabama, where I received both my Master of Arts in History and my Master of Library and Information Studies. I am currently pursuing a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership with a concentration in



Higher Education Administration at Arkansas State University.

It is an exciting time for both Historical Collections and UAB Libraries. In February, the Division of Historical Collections hosted the 45th Annual Reynolds Historical Lecture. Jayme Locke, M.D., spoke about her work as an abdominal transplant surgeon at UAB. The annual lecture is part of the University of Alabama Medical ►



Alumni weekend and is co-hosted by the Medical Alumni Association.

The new Dennis G. Pappas Historical Gallery opens this spring on the second floor of Lister Hill Library. The curators and archivists are preparing an inaugural exhibition that features vision and hearing loss. UAB

Libraries is grateful to Dr. Dennis G. Pappas, Sr., and Dr. Dennis G. Pappas, Jr., for their support of the gallery, which provide a space for showcasing the history of medicine and the health sciences through the materials in UAB Historical Collections. We hope you are able to stop by for a tour of the gallery and the inaugural exhibition.

I encourage you to visit our new gallery on the second floor of Lister Hill Library and schedule an appointment to view the historical collections we have in UAB Libraries.

Warmly,  
Jason ■

## 'To the Letter' now on display at Sterne

We are pleased to announce a new exhibition, "To the Letter: A History of the Printing Press." Located on the third floor of Mervyn H. Sterne Library, this exhibit showcases the history of printing from around the world to here at UAB. Several materials from UAB's former Book Arts Program are on display, as well as materials related to letterpress printing, letterpress-printed pieces, and texts explaining the deeper history of presses and their development over time.

Central to the exhibit is an original "old-style" Chandler and Price Printing Press, manufactured in 1885 by Harrison T. Chandler and William H. Price. It is a hand-operated press that uses a technique called "letterpress" to transfer ink onto paper or fabric, meant for small jobs such as stationary cards, brochures, and small books. It was brought to UAB in the 1970s to be used in the Book Arts Program offered through the UAB Division of Special Studies.

Visit the exhibit on the third floor of Sterne Library. ■



Medical museum, circa 1890 – located in the Medical College of Alabama in Mobile | UAB Archives

## Installation set for gallery exhibit

The Historical Collections team is excited to announce the first exhibit featured in the new Dennis G. Pappas Gallery; installation is scheduled for summer 2024.

This exhibit will showcase items from the Reynolds-Finley Historical Library, the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, and the UAB Archives. The theme of this exhibit will include the history of otolaryngology (Dr. Pappas'

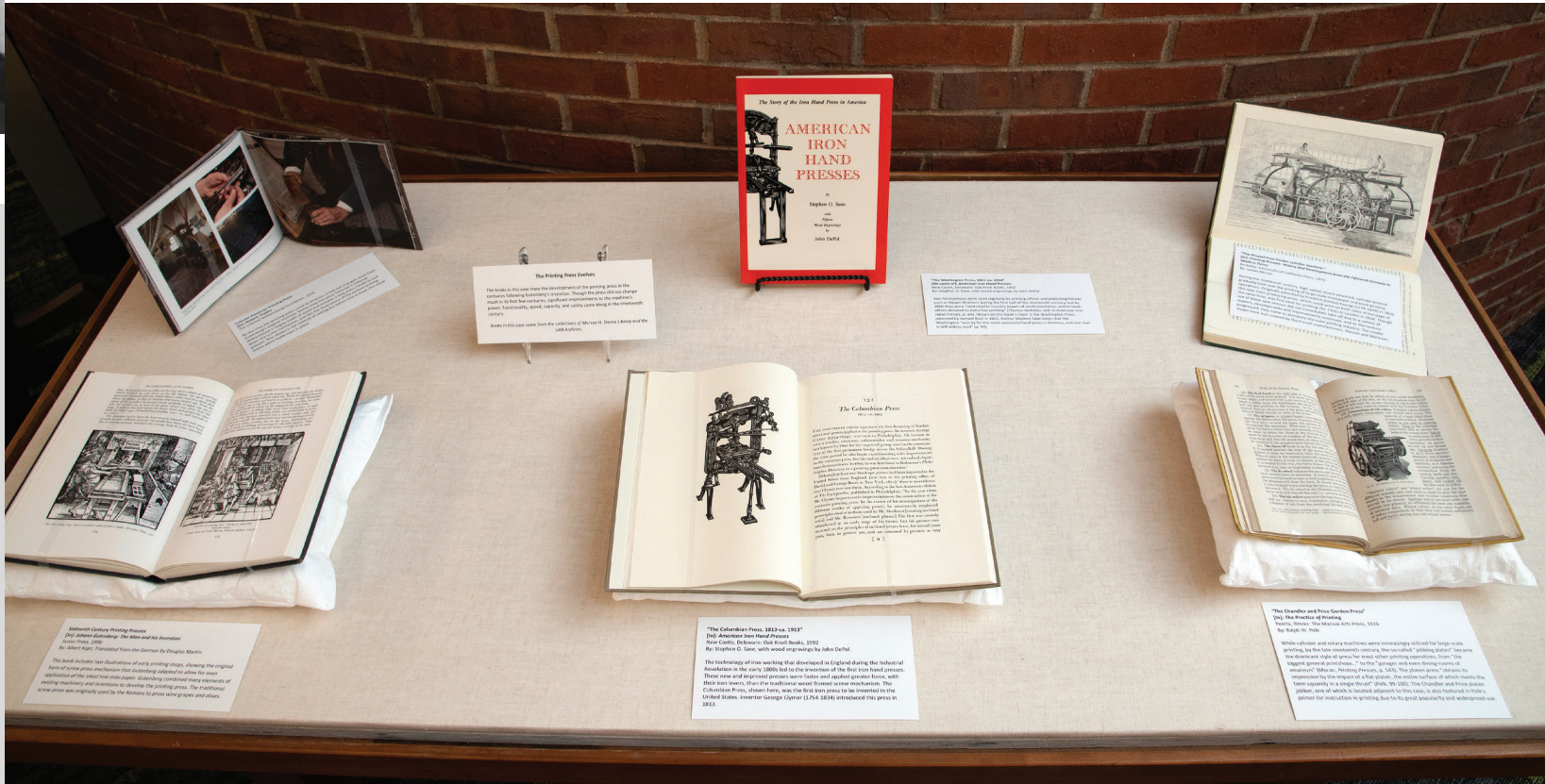
passion) and related themes, such as hearing and visual disabilities, diseases, etc.

Additionally, the exhibit will highlight various digitized items from the Historical Collections and interactive technologies including Turning the Pages, video/audio interviews with Dr. Pappas, Sr., and a virtual reality simulation. Please stay tuned for more information on this first exhibit. ■

Interested in donating  
to the Gallery?



Scan the QR code  
or visit [go.uab.edu/hcg](https://go.uab.edu/hcg).





# Annual RFHL Lecture a success

On February 23, the 45th RFHL Annual Lecture, “Surgery, Science & Advocacy: Promoting Health Equity Across the Continuum of Transplant Care” was presented by Jayme Locke, M.D. professor of Surgery and Arnold G. Diethelm MD Endowed Chair in Transplantation Surgery.

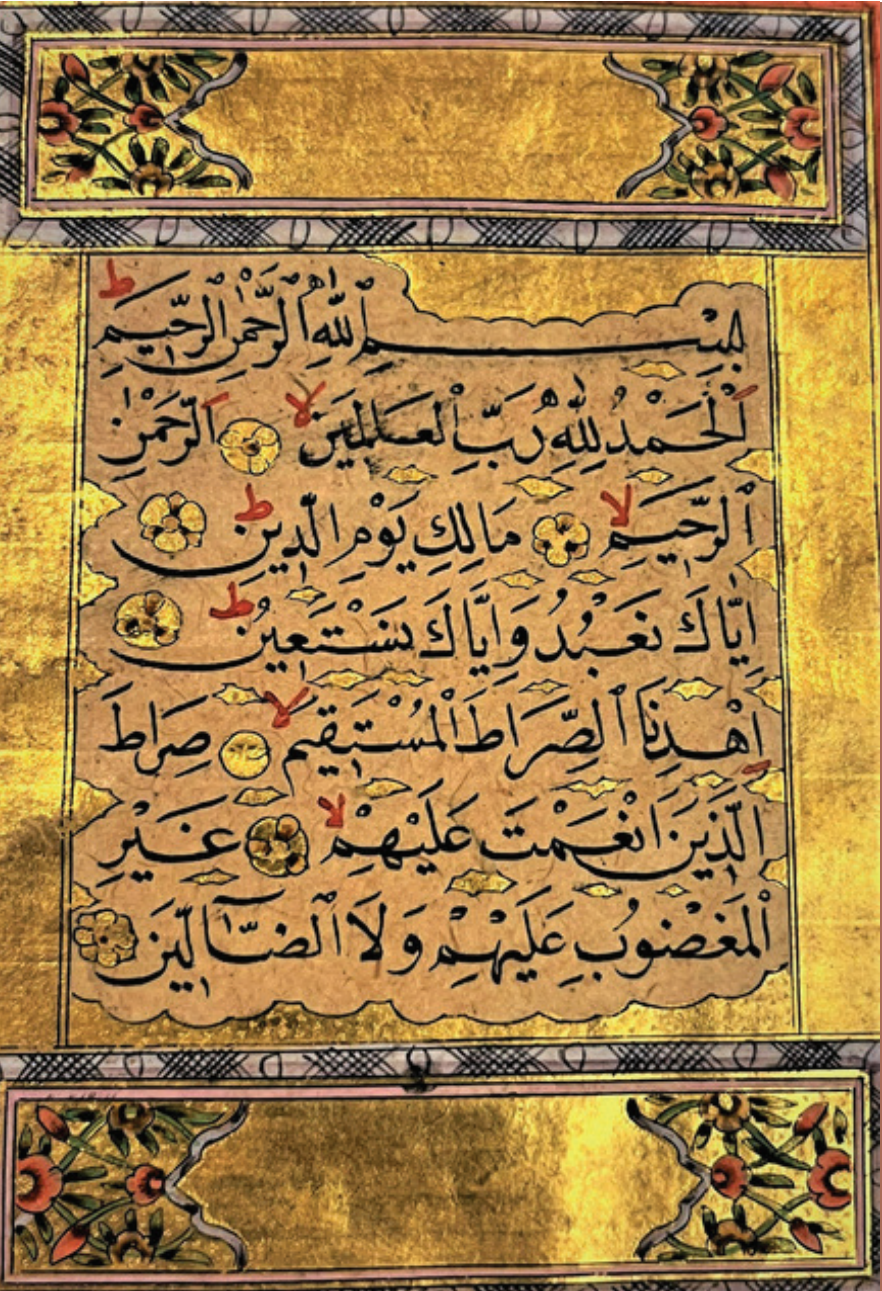
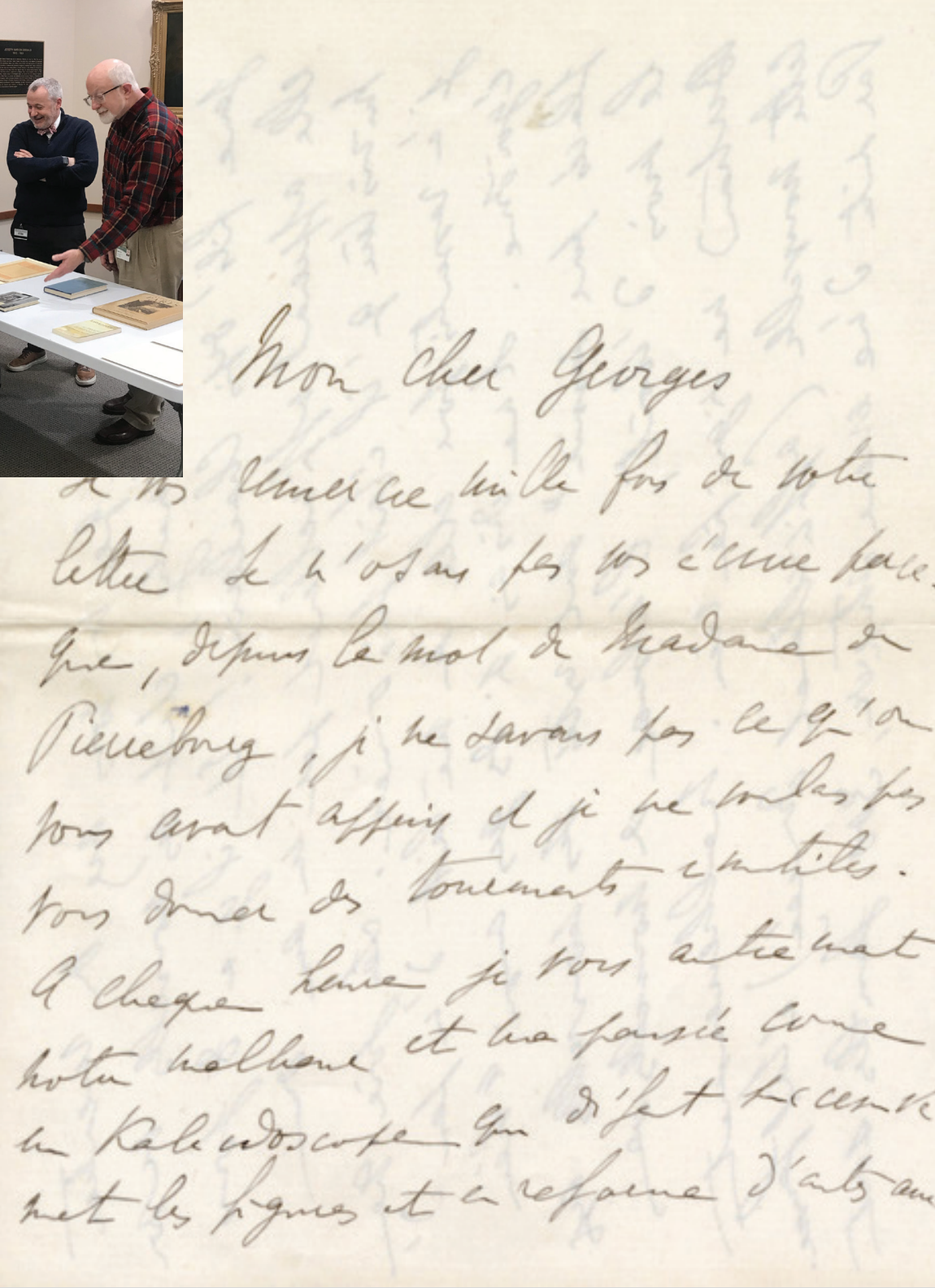
Dr. Locke is an abdominal transplant surgeon specializing in innovative strategies for the transplantation of incompatible organs, disparities in access to and outcomes after solid organ

transplantation, and transplantation of HIV-infected end-stage patients.

Visit [go.uab.edu/2024rfhl](https://go.uab.edu/2024rfhl) or scan the QR code below to view a recording of the lecture. ■



Above, students from the Department of World Languages and Literatures viewed items from the Proust Collection in University Archives (photo courtesy of Dr. Maury Bruhn, taken by Shelley Fordice; left, “My dear Georges,” Proust to de Lauris, March 1915.



## Highlights from the Collections

The Reynolds-Finley Historical Library is collaborating with the Digitization and Digital Preservation team to digitize the Middle East Medical Collection, a rare collection compiled of both print and manuscript materials in languages including Arabic, Persian, and Syriac.

Once these items are digitized, they will be showcased in the Digital Library of the Middle East, a site hosted by Stanford University to bring greater awareness to the collection.

Please stay tuned for updates on this exciting and significant project. ■

Illuminated page from a Quran manuscript

## New acquisition adds to the Proust Letters Collection

UAB Libraries Dean Kasia Gonnerman recently acquired with library endowment funds six letters written by French novelist Marcel Proust (1871-1922). Dr. William C. Carter, UAB distinguished professor emeritus (French), reviewed and recommended the letters for purchase. The new Proust

acquisition includes two letters to Count Georges de Lauris and four letters to Baroness Marguerite Harty de Pierrebourg, all written between 1903-1916.

The letters have been added to the Proust Collection in University Archives. With this new acquisition,

UAB now owns 21 Proust letters. The letters were first displayed publicly to the students in the Fin-De-Siecle France course taught by Dr. Maury Young Bruhn (World Languages and Literatures) when the students visited University Archives for a class tour. ■



## Historical Collections

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## 2 webinars highlight innovation in Historical Collections

On Feb. 14, Anna Kaetz co-presented with design professor Dr. Matt Lewis in the ASERL webinar “Digital Humanities and Emerging Technologies: Collaboration, Vision and Future,” which highlighted a collaboration between Lewis, a professor at Ohio State, and the staff of the Reynolds-Finley Historical Library to create two augmented reality simulations based on rare book imagery from the library collections.

On March 6, Anna Kaetz also presented “Rare Books Through Innovative Tech,” in which she discussed various ways that technology is being used in HC exhibitions, RFHL operations and in the new gallery space. Some of the topics discussed included VR/AR



*RFHL Curator Peggy Balch takes a selfie with the Merknights.*

projects, interactive book display software, Turning the Pages, advanced technologies selected for the opening gallery exhibit, and more. Stay tuned for more updates on projects highlighting Historical Collections and its rare materials. ■