Central Library celebrates series of ‘firsts’

Vanderbilt’s eight campus libraries—collectively known as the Jean and Alexander Heard Library—are welcoming venues for students, whether they are reading in a cozy nook, engaging in research, meeting friends for group study, grabbing a quick bite or viewing an exhibit. In partnership with the faculty, library staff members also teach students valuable skills for locating and evaluating the latest information among the 8 million items in the libraries’ collections.

The 1941-era Central Library is at the heart of the library system, and an extensive $6 million renovation of the venerable structure in 2010 ushered in a series of impressive “firsts” while also breaking new ground in programming.

The renovation recently received gold-level certification from the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program. While several new Vanderbilt campus buildings have been LEED-certified, the library project represents the campus’s first renovation of an existing building to achieve this high honor.

The renovation added new group study rooms, instructional spaces, a dynamic exhibit program, and a multifunctional community room. For the first time authors, historians, and the nation’s leading political figures can share their research with the campus community in the Central Library, while students have the opportunity to converse with these leaders and hear about current topics from those making the headlines.

Student response to the library’s new Food for Thought Café has been overwhelmingly positive. Food is now allowed in all library areas except Special Collections. New state-of-the-art exhibition cases and interactive touch screens present new opportunities for students to work as exhibition curators, creating displays using sources from the library’s Special Collections and University Archives. In March the first interactive exhibit curated by a student went live with senior Emily Cook’s interpretation of photographs of Appalachian communities taken by photojournalist Jack Corn. Such curatorial fellowships allow students to learn from firsthand accounts and encourage creative scholarship.

The Heard Library staff invites you to visit them during your next trip to Nashville to learn more about their programs.

Key dates

August 1
Deadline for all students to waive student health insurance coverage

August 15
Deadline for students to pay charges without late payment fee

August 18
First-year student Move-In Day

August 19
Transfer student Move-In Day

Residence halls open at 9 a.m. for upperclass students

August 22
Fall classes begin

September 3 (Labor Day)
Classes are in session

October 4–5
Fall break

October 12–14
Family Weekend

October 25–27
Homecoming/Reunion

November 17–25
Thanksgiving holiday

December 6
Classes end

December 7–15
Reading days and examinations

December 16
Undergraduate residence halls close at 9 a.m.

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At Vanderbilt’s bookstore, it’s your choice

The Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt University bookstore makes it convenient and easy for students to purchase textbooks each semester. They may order books online and pick them up at the bookstore. First-year students may pick up their books at The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons at Vanderbilt on Move-In Day. Books are pulled, boxed and ready for pickup. It’s that easy!

The area’s largest selection of textbooks is available at Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt in a wide variety of formats—including new, used, digital, rental, loose-leaf and custom books—to give students more choices and more control over costs. While used books can save 25 percent off the cost of a new printed book, the rental option can save more than 50 percent.

The bookstore fills orders on a first-come, first-served basis, so ordering early is highly recommended. For more information or to order textbooks online, visit the website at vubookstore.com and click on the “textbooks” tab to order and get more information about the multiple textbook formats. Payment options include credit cards (American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa) and Barnes & Noble gift cards. For further assistance, call the bookstore at (615) 343-2665.

New heads of house welcomed on The Commons

The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons at Vanderbilt, the university’s living and learning community for first-year students, consists of 10 residence halls, or “houses,” each led by a faculty head of house who lives on site with that house’s students. In August 2012, four new faculty heads of house will join The Ingram Commons community just in time for the opening of its fifth year. A committee of faculty, students and staff chaired by Frank Wcislo, dean of The Ingram Commons, reviewed 20 applicants with a broad range of experience, interests and academic achievement. Finalists were recommended to Provost Richard McCarty, who ultimately made four appointments.

**West House:** Robert Barsky, professor of French and comparative literature, professor of Jewish studies and professor of English

**Memorial House:** Roger Cone, Joe C. Davis Professor of Biomedical Science and professor in and chair of the Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics

**Murray House:** Kevin Leander, associate professor of education

**East House:** Cynthia Gadd, professor of biomedical informatics

Additionally, Jessica Reasons has been named program coordinator for The Ingram Commons. She will work extensively with campus partners and student organizations to organize and execute major events on The Commons while also providing logistical programming support and coordination for the faculty heads of house, residential education staff, house advisory councils and residential students.

Learn more: For insight into the life of a busy faculty head of house, read “Doctor in the House” from the spring issue of Vanderbilt Magazine at http://sasuprl.com/terhune.

How to ship packages to campus this fall

- **Packages sent to campus for Move-In Weekend must be shipped via UPS Ground or FedEx Ground only.**
- **Please do not ship any packages—for Move-In Weekend or otherwise—before August 9.**
- **When shipping, pack all items securely and add extra protection for fragile items. Use filler for empty space in boxes to avoid breakage. Use the address format below: Be sure the student’s full given name and campus address are marked clearly on all packages. Do not address packages to a residence hall. If shipping more than one package at the same time, please number them (1 of 5, 2 of 5, 3 of 5).**
- **Please use shipping boxes that your student can carry or handle easily.**
- **We recommend insuring packages for the value of the contents. UPS and FedEx Ground can insure each package for up to $100 and provide a tracking number free of charge. Please bring the tracking number for each package to the pickup area for confirmation of delivery.**

**Address format:**

- **Student Name**
- **PMB 35XXXX**
- 2301 Vanderbilt Place
- Nashville, TN 37235-XXXX

(XXXX = your student’s assigned four-digit PMB number)

Make your plans for Family Weekend in October

Family Weekend is set for October 12-14 and is the perfect time for students, parents, grandparents and siblings to reconnect on the Vanderbilt campus. We invite you to join us!

An exciting schedule is lined up for you, including SEC football matchups between the Commodores and Florida as well as opportunities to meet with deans, administrators and faculty members. In between, you’ll still have time to stroll across our beautiful campus and take in the Vanderbilt atmosphere.

**Schedule Highlights**

**Friday**

- Faculty Lecture Series
- Campus tours and open houses
- Fall for the Arts Festival and dining experience on The Ingram Commons (for all families)

**Saturday**

- Conversation with the Chancellor
- Pre-game family tailgate party
- Conversation with the Chancellor
- Faculty Lecture Series
- Campus tours and open houses
- Fall for the Arts Festival and dining experience on The Ingram Commons (for all families)

**Sunday**

- Family Farewell brunch
- Macy’s Downtown

**Saturday, October 13**

- Mike Super, magician and winner of NBC’s America’s Got Talent
- Vanderbilt vs. Florida football game
- Pre-game family tailgate party
- Campus tours and open houses
- Macy’s Downtown

**Sunday, October 14**

- Campus tours and open houses
- Macy’s Downtown

**Schedule highlights**

- **Faculty Lecture Series:**
  - Robert Barsky, professor of French and comparative literature, professor of Jewish studies and professor of English
  - Roger Cone, Joe C. Davis Professor of Biomedical Science and professor in and chair of the Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics
  - Kevin Leander, associate professor of education
  - Cynthia Gadd, professor of biomedical informatics

- **Memorial House:**
  - Roger Cone, Joe C. Davis Professor of Biomedical Science and professor in and chair of the Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics

- **Murray House:**
  - Kevin Leander, associate professor of education

- **East House:**
  - Cynthia Gadd, professor of biomedical informatics

- **New heads of house welcomed on The Commons**
  - Robert Barsky
  - Roger Cone
  - Kevin Leander
  - Cynthia Gadd

- **The Ingram Commons Community**
  - First-year students, 10 residence halls
  - Faculty heads of house

- **Faculty Lecture Series**
  - Robert Barsky
  - Roger Cone
  - Kevin Leander
  - Cynthia Gadd

- **Campus tours and open houses**
  - Saturday, October 13
  - Sunday, October 14

- **Family Farewell brunch**
  - Saturday, October 13

- **Macy’s Downtown**
  - Saturday, October 13
  - Sunday, October 14

- **Additional events**
  - Mike Super, magician
  - Vanderbilt vs. Florida football game
  - Pre-game family tailgate party
  - Macy’s Downtown

**Send a hug from home**

For more than five years, Vanderbilt parents have been able to send Hugs from Home. The Vanderbilt bookstore’s Hugs from Home program is incredibly popular. Parents enjoy sending a personal message of support to their student at important times of the academic year, and students appreciate the emotional boost and nourishing snacks and treats!

The packages are filled with seasonal favorites tied to celebrate the start of school, Halloween, Valentine’s Day and fall and spring final exams. Birthday packages are also available. Hugs from Home packages may be purchased as a one-time gift or through the cost-saving year-long plan. To reserve Hugs from Home, visit carepackages.com/vanderbilt. To guarantee a back-to-school package, please order by August 15.

**Philippe Fauchet named School of Engineering dean**

Philippe Fauchet, formerly chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Rochester, is the new dean of Vanderbilt University School of Engineering. He began July 1.

“This is an important moment of transition for the School of Engineering,” says Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos. “Philippe Fauchet is already well known and respected at Vanderbilt because of his accomplishments at the University of Rochester, and we anticipate great success as he brings his dynamic leadership to our campus.”

The engineering school is getting a visionary leader in Philippe Fauchet to build on the impressive contributions of Dean Ken Galloway,” adds Richard McCarty, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. “Philippe has broad experience as a researcher, and he is a dedicated teacher and university citizen.”

Fauchet succeeds Kenneth Galloway, who is returning to the engineering faculty at the end of the current academic year after 16 years of service as dean.

“I intend to build on the strong foundation laid by Dean Galloway and help the School of Engineering become a national leader that attracts the very best minds from the United States and abroad,” says Fauchet. “I think Vanderbilt can have an important impact on issues including improving health for our aging population, energy production, the environment and security.”

**Philippe Fauchet**

**Robert Barsky**

**Roger Cone**

**Kevin Leander**

**Cynthia Gadd**

**Memorial House:**

- Roger Cone, Joe C. Davis Professor of Biomedical Science and professor in and chair of the Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics

- **Murray House:**
  - Kevin Leander, associate professor of education

- **East House:**
  - Cynthia Gadd, professor of biomedical informatics

**Address format**

- **Student Name**
- **PMB 35XXXX**
- 2301 Vanderbilt Place
- Nashville, TN 37235-XXXX

(XXXX = your student’s assigned four-digit PMB number)
Faculty spotlight: Bettina Warnke
Charting the course for first-year students

Bettina “Nina” Warnke wears many hats at Vanderbilt, but in the end her goal is to make the first-year student experience meaningful and fulfilling.

An assistant professor of Jewish studies, Warnke is assistant dean of The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons at Vanderbilt, where all first-year students live and learn together. She also serves as executive director of both Vanderbilt Visions and Commons Seminars—two initiatives designed to enrich the intellectual and social lives of first-year students. And to top it all off, she’s the adviser to VUcept, Vanderbilt’s undergraduate student peer-mentoring organization—a role she especially enjoys.

“What I love about working with this particular organization is that the students are highly motivated,” says Warnke, who is also currently teaching a senior thesis tutorial in European studies. “They are smart, innovative, and bring so many great ideas to the table.”

Warnke is in charge of all academic programs on The Ingram Commons. In this capacity she works with a wide range of campus partners, including the Vanderbilt Career Center and the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy.

“During the four years I’ve worked with Vanderbilt Visions, the organization has really become professional in ways that are just incredible,” she says.

“Being able to serve as a mentor to them is extremely meaningful to me.”

Student spotlight: Omar Salman
Humanitarian in training

Omar Salman’s journey to Vanderbilt began halfway across the world. He was born in Kuwait and immigrated to the United States as a child in 1996. He graduated at the top of his class from a leading academic magnet high school. Today he is president of VUcept, the campus organization that recruits VUceptors—undergraduate peer mentors to new students.

Salman, a senior, is majoring in engineering science and mathematics. He plans to pursue medical school after graduation and eventually work with a humanitarian organization such as Doctors Without Borders.

In 2011, Salman served as a White House intern, and he’s now an intern with the World Health Organization working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

As VUcept president, Salman leads student VUceptors through the CommonVU orientation and Vanderbilt Visions, a university core program that helps members of each year’s incoming class make the transition to life at Vanderbilt.

“Serving as VUcept president has been the most rewarding experience I’ve had at Vanderbilt,” Salman says. “The VUcept and Vanderbilt Visions experiences are so important to our great university as they support the living and learning community of The Ingram Commons.”

Vanderbilt comes to Knoxville
Terry (BE’81) and Dawn Moore, parents of senior Austin Moore, and John and Kenda McCord, parents of junior John McCord, served as generous hosts of an April 19 parent reception in Knoxville, Tenn., for the Parents and Family Programs office.

At the reception, parents of current students came together to share stories and hear updates from Vanderbilt administrators. Cindy Funk, director of the chancellor’s Career Center, addressed the gathering with “Straight Talk: A Parent’s Guide to Student Internships and Jobs” and shared stories of student successes.

“If you would like to host a Vanderbilt parent event in your area, please contact the Parents and Family Programs office at (877) 887-2736 or parents@vanderbilt.edu.

In memory of Beth Higham

Beth Miree Higham, BA’81, a Vanderbilt alumna and parent, died in Nashville on January 21. She had a generous spirit and was committed to the service of Vanderbilt and her community.

As a Vanderbilt student, Mrs. Higham was a member of Phi Beta Kappa honor society. She was a dedicated wife and parent to three children: Catherine, a second-year student in the School of Medicine; Rob, a junior in the College of Arts and Science; and John. She and her husband, Joe, (BA’79), had been active members of the Parents and Family Association Advisory Board since 2010. While serving on the board, she often volunteered to welcome new families on Move-In Day. She also assisted with Family Weekend registration and called new Vanderbilt parents during the annual phone-a-thon.

Mrs. Higham exuded the Vanderbilt spirit through her eagerness to serve and her constant joyful attitude. Her connections to the university community were many, and she will indeed be missed.

How can I volunteer?

Volunteer opportunities abound for Vanderbilt parents, and we invite you to take part in whatever capacity you can. Consider these ways to get involved:

• Join the Freshman Mentoring Committee. Welcome and be in touch with parents of new students from your region.

• Host and/or organize parent receptions in your region during the school year.

• Join the On-Campus Events Committee. Assist with on-campus events such as Move-In Day and Family Weekend.

• Help the Office of Alumni Relations. Help host and/or organize Summer Send-Off Parties for new students and their parents or guardians from your area. Invitations to these events also include local alumni and current students and parents.

• Help the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Student counselors need your help by volunteering at college fairs and providing your area, passing out brochures and materials, and answering questions.

• Become a parent ambassador for the Global Education Office. If your student has studied abroad through the Vanderbilt program, share your knowledge and experience with other parents.

We ask you to get involved today! To sign up, simply go to the Parents and Family Programs website at vanderbilt.edu/families and click the “Learn more” link under the “Volunteer opportunities available for parents” section on the right side of the page.
What Parent Leaders want to know
Answers about the Vanderbilt Parents Leadership Committee

What is the Parents Leadership Committee?
The Vanderbilt Parents Leadership Committee (PLC) is comprised of parents of undergraduate students from the College of Arts and Science, Peabody College, the School of Engineering and the Blair School of Music. From time to time, parents of recent graduates and graduate students also serve on the committee.

What exactly does participating in the Parents Leadership Committee entail?
The PLC meets once each semester over Family Weekend and Parents and Family Leadership Weekend. At the fall and spring semester meetings, the committee meets with senior university administrators and faculty members. PLC members have the opportunity to discuss critical topics that impact student life and Vanderbilt. PLC members also host Vanderbilt gatherings in their communities, participate in a variety of programs including the annual Thank-A-Thon, and provide internships and networking opportunities for Vanderbilt students and recent graduates.

Vanderbilt PLC members are asked to make a leadership gift at one of the following levels:
- Cornelius Vanderbilt Level – gifts of $25,000 or more
- Chancellor’s Council Level – gifts of $10,000 to $24,999
- Dean’s List Level – gifts of $5,000 to $9,999

Are the leadership committees, donor societies and the Parents and Grandparents Campaign separate funds at Vanderbilt?
No. Gifts from parents and grandparents are made to the Parents and Grandparents Campaign. Donor societies allow the university to provide special recognition and stewardship for parents and grandparents supporting the university at various levels. A gift can be recognized through the Parents Leadership Committee and by the area the gift supported (the Blair School, College of Arts and Science, School of Engineering, Peabody College, etc.).

May I allocate my leadership gifts to the National Commodore Club, the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt or other areas of the university? Yes. Leadership gifts may be allocated to any area of the university you choose to support. Most choose to support their student’s undergraduate school.

For more information on the Parents Leadership Committee please contact Amy Jarvis or Rebekah Rohrbach in the Parents and Grandparents Campaign Office at (615) 343-5120, pag.campaign@vanderbilt.edu or visit the website at vanderbilt.edu/pagcampaign.

Oak Leaf Society recognizes donor loyalty

Each year more than 26,000 members of the Vanderbilt community demonstrate loyalty to the university by renewing their annual gifts. We are proud to count many parents among our most loyal supporters.

To recognize this loyalty, Vanderbilt recently established the Oak Leaf Society. The Oak Leaf Society honors committed Vanderbilt donors whose annual gifts serve as the foundation for university-wide excellence.

Gifts of any amount to any area of the university given for two or more consecutive fiscal years are greatly appreciated and count toward Oak Leaf Society participation. Various durations of loyalty are recognized—from Founder participants who are just starting a tradition of giving annually to Capstone participants who have shown commitment to the university through annual giving for 20 years or more. Participation is sustained as long as gifts are made to Vanderbilt every fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) without interruption.

Oak Leaf Society participants are dedicated to shaping the future of Vanderbilt and making a difference in informed and creative teaching, student scholarships, cutting-edge research, patient care, and service to the community and society at large. Your annual gifts have a powerful impact on Vanderbilt’s ability to meet new opportunities and emerging needs while also honoring the timeless tradition of giving to Vanderbilt.

For more information on the Oak Leaf Society, visit giving.vanderbilt.edu/oakleafsociety or call (800) 288-0028.

Unrestricted giving to Vanderbilt

Unrestricted gifts are contributions to Vanderbilt which are not designated for a particular purpose and can enable a student’s progression from scholar to real-world problem solver. Unrestricted funds are important because they can be used immediately by an undergraduate school dean for any purpose—laboratory and classroom equipment, library acquisitions, guest lectureships, special programs and seminars, and much more. The School of Engineering is able to use unrestricted funds for Senior Design Seminar, which encourages the different areas of engineering to collaborate to solve real-world problems. The College of Arts and Science has used unrestricted dollars to recruit and retain top faculty to Vanderbilt. Unrestricted gifts enable the Blair School of Music to buy instruments and recording equipment for students and to invite guest artists to teach master classes. Peabody has been consistently ranked among the top ranked American colleges of education, due in part to unrestricted support.

For more information on unrestricted giving, please contact the Parents and Grandparents Campaign at (615) 343-5120 or pag.campaign@vanderbilt.edu.

Parents

Campaign update

Parents are a generous and significant constituency for Vanderbilt, and so far this fiscal year, have given $4 million in gifts and another $8.2 million in new pledges.

Parent participation helps bridge the gap between tuition dollars and the cost of a Vanderbilt education, and helps enrich the Vanderbilt community for our future leaders and scholars.

Membership of the Parents Leadership Committee, a critical group of committed and dynamic parent donors, has increased to a record-breaking 225 parents. Vanderbilt is grateful to have the support of such a wonderful and generous group. As of May 15, PLC members have given $5.9 million in this fiscal year which ends June 30. We are grateful for their support and involvement.

All parents are encouraged to participate, as a gift of any kind is meaningful to Vanderbilt.

For more information on the Parents Campaign or the PLC, please contact Rebekah Rohrbach or Amy Jarvis at (615) 343-3120 or pag.campaign@vanderbilt.edu.

Ways to give

For your convenience, Vanderbilt provides a number of ways for parents, grandparents, alumni and friends to make gifts. Specific information is available online at giving.vanderbilt.edu.

- Gifts, pledges and pledge payments may be mailed to Vanderbilt Parents and Grandparents Campaign, Gift Processing Office, PMB 40722, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37240.
- Credit card gifts may be made on our secure website at giving.vanderbilt.edu/giveonline.
- For specific instructions on making a gift of stock to Vanderbilt, please call (615) 322-9878 or email stock.gifts@vanderbilt.edu.
- To make an anonymous gift, tell the Parents and Grandparents Campaign Office of the request—(615) 343-3120—and it will be processed accordingly.
- If you’re considering a planned gift such as a charitable gift annuity or bequest, please contact Anthony Barclay in the Office of Planned Giving at (615) 343-3113.
For more information

Parent Helpline
(877) 887-2736

Email
parents@vanderbilt.edu

Parents & Family Programs
vanderbilt.edu/families

Parents and Grandparents Campaign
vanderbilt.edu/pagcampaign

Key links

Academic calendar
registrar.vanderbilt.edu/calendar

Athletics
vucommodores.com

Bookstore
vanderbiltbookstore.com

Commencement
vanderbilt.edu/commencement

Dean of Students
vanderbilt.edu/deanofstudents

First-year orientation
commonplace.vanderbilt.edu

Greek life
vanderbilt.edu/greek_life

Housing and Residential Life
vanderbilt.edu/ResEd

Student Health Center
vanderbilt.edu/student_health

University calendar
calendar.vanderbilt.edu

VSG shuttle service
studentorgs.vanderbilt.edu/vsg

Become a fan of the Vanderbilt Parents & Family Association on Facebook

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Parents & Family Programs
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SUMMER 2012

NEWS FOR VANDERBILT PARENTS AND FAMILIES