JOHN M. OLIN LIBRARY TRANSFORMATION
DEDICATION CEREMONY

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

WELCOME
Craig D. Schnuck
Chair of the Washington University Board of Trustees

REMARKS
Mark S. Wrighton
Chancellor
Denise Stephens
Vice Provost and University Librarian
Jack Thomas
Trustee; Chair of the University Libraries National Council
Andy Newman
Emeritus Trustee; Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee

FACULTY REMARKS
Peter Kastor
Professor of History

STUDENT REMARKS
Le’Aysha Pearson
Arts & Sciences, Class of 2019

CLOSING REMARKS
Craig D. Schnuck

RIBBON CUTTING AND RECEPTION
After the ceremony, please proceed outside to the John M. Olin Library south entrance for the ribbon cutting.

After the ribbon cutting, please join us inside the library for a special unveiling of a rare broadside of the Declaration of Independence.

Self-guided tours are available and experts will be stationed in the new spaces to provide information and guidance as visitors explore the building.
Throughout his life, Julian Edison was widely admired for his great sense of curiosity, love of books, and dedication to improving the St. Louis region. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the Washington University Libraries and served on the University Libraries National Council from 2000 to 2017. An early gift from Julian’s wife, Hope, sparked his passion for collecting miniature books, and today much of Julian’s internationally renowned collection is housed at Washington University.

Julian, the former chairman of Edison Brothers Stores Inc., died in 2017, but his legacy lives on through all who visit the John M. Olin Library to access knowledge, advance meaningful scholarship, and engage with holdings in the Julian Edison Department of Special Collections. Julian and Hope’s generous gifts to the Washington University Libraries, as well as to the School of Medicine, the Brown School, and the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, reflect their exceptional commitment to enhancing the university as a leading center of research, teaching, and learning.

Ken and Nancy, AB ’66, Kranzberg are deeply committed to building partnerships that strengthen education and the arts at Washington University and throughout the St. Louis community. Nancy has served on the Washington University Libraries National Council for 23 years, and her leadership helped establish the William Greenleaf Eliot Society for the University Libraries. In 2001, she was honored with the university’s Distinguished Alumni Award. Ken has served on the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts National Council since 2007.

Ken and Nancy share a great dedication to philanthropy and volunteer on the boards of many arts organizations and other nonprofits. At Washington University, in addition to naming the D.B. Dowd Modern Graphic History Library, they have provided support for Anabeth and John Weil Hall, the Gaylord Music Library, the Ken and Nancy Kranzberg Fund in the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, the Kenneth and Nancy Kranzberg Art & Architecture Library, and the Nancy Spirtas Kranzberg Studio for the Illustrated Book.
ANDY AND PEGGY NEWMAN

Newman Tower of Collections and Exploration

The Newman family’s generous longstanding support for the Washington University Libraries has been critical to the libraries continued ascent as a prominent hub for scholarly research. Most recently, the Newman family and the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society made possible the Newman Tower of Collections and Exploration, which serves as a new point of connection throughout the Olin Library and provides exceptional library and museum experiences to users and visitors. The Newman Tower includes the Sky Room, Risa’s Landing, and the Newman Exploration Center.

Washington University is particularly grateful to the late Eric, JD ’35, and Evelyn Newman and to their son, Emeritus Trustee Andy Newman, and his wife, Peggy Newman, AB ’72, JD ’76, for their visionary leadership and commitment to the university. Andy Newman, who serves on the School of Medicine National Council, is chairman of Hackett Security Inc.

In addition to their support for Washington University Libraries, Andy and Peggy Newman’s generous contributions extend to the School of Medicine, the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, the School of Law, Arts & Sciences, and the Danforth University Center.

JACK AND DEBBIE THOMAS

Jack E. and Debbie T. Thomas Gallery

Through their exceptional generosity and service, Jack and Debbie Thomas have created a legacy of cultivating intellectual growth, inspiring creative exploration, and enriching scholarly pursuits at Washington University. Jack, chairman and chief executive officer of St. Louis–based Coin Acceptors Inc., serves on Washington University’s Board of Trustees and is a member of the Olin Business School National Council. As the presiding chair of the University Libraries National Council, on which he has served for the past 15 years, Jack has provided strong leadership to set the libraries on an ambitious course for the future.

In addition to their generous commitment for the Jack E. and Debbie T. Thomas Gallery in the John M. Olin Library, Jack and Debbie also have established, with earlier gifts to the libraries, the Thomas Humanities Book Fund, the Shirley Baker Lecture Series, and the Jack E. Thomas, BU ’28, Family Endowment in the Film & Media Archive. They also endowed the Thomas Family Scholarship at Olin Business School.
Over the course of many decades, the late philanthropist and business leader John M. Olin and his family have had an extraordinary impact on Washington University and its libraries. Mr. Olin served as a trustee of Washington University for 40 years. When Chancellor Ethan A.H. Shepley issued a call in the mid-1950s for a new library to serve the growing university, Mr. Olin stepped forward with transformative and enthusiastic support. On the importance of libraries to the world’s leading universities, he wrote, “The library is the heart of the university… a place where fact and trust will be clearly and fearlessly set forth to the end that man may progress.”

In addition to providing longstanding support for the Washington University Libraries, Mr. Olin and the John M. Olin Foundation made significant gifts to the School of Medicine and to Olin Business School, which was named in his honor in 1987.

John M. Olin’s legacy has been greatly extended by his granddaughter, Adele Braun Dilschneider. Her generous support has significantly strengthened the Washington University Libraries and enhanced their ability to advance important scholarly endeavors. Ms. Dilschneider received the Robert S. Brookings Award from Washington University in 2005 and the University Libraries’ Dean’s Medal in 2012. Her keen interest in the transformation of John M. Olin Library is an inspiration to the entire university community and has brought special meaning to this project.
THANK YOU for joining us today to celebrate the dedication of the transformed John M. Olin Library. Our generous lead donors—Adele Dilschneider, Julian and Hope Edison, Ken and Nancy Kranzberg, Andy and Peggy Newman, and Jack and Debbie Thomas—have enabled Washington University to expand and revitalize a space that is critical to our teaching, learning, research, and service to society.

Washington University is renowned for providing a world-class education. The Olin Library Transformation is enhancing the overall student experience and facilitating study and discovery. The new spaces, including the Newman Tower of Collections and Exploration, the Jack E. and Debbie T. Thomas Gallery, and the Julian Edison Department of Special Collections, bring art, history, and culture to all users.

We are grateful to the myriad supporters—from alumni, parents, and friends to faculty and staff—who transformed the vision of this extraordinary facility into a reality.

For more information on supporting the University Libraries, please contact:
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Notice to our guests: Photographers and videographers, hired by the University Libraries, will be taking photos at this Washington University event. Images may be used in future marketing materials.