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# Articulating a Clear Vision for Archives & Special Collections

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#### **Recommended** Citation

Nasr, Nadia, "Articulating a Clear Vision for Archives & Special Collections" (2016). *University Library*. Paper 137. http://scholarcommons.scu.edu/library/137

Presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Society of California Archivists (the theme/title for this year's conference was "Evolution and Innovation"). The presentation was for session 10, "Visions and Realities in Special Collections."

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# Articulating a Clear Vision for Archives & Special Collections

#### NADIA NASR HEAD OF ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

PART OF "VISIONS & REALITIES IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: HOW REORGANIZATIONS, CHANGING LANDSCAPES, AND NEW DEMANDS & TECHNOLOGIES IMPACT SPECIAL COLLECTIONS"

# **Organization & Reorganization**

#### ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

#### Fathers' Library

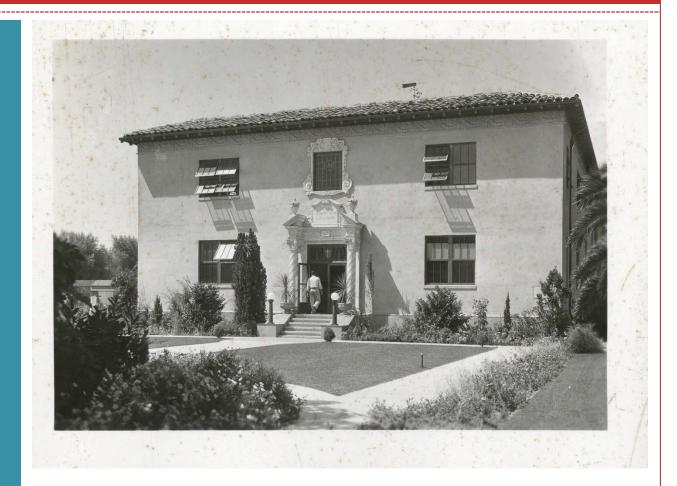
The Fathers' Library, contained "[...] one of the choicest collections of books in the State. Many of the works are rare, some nearly four centuries old, and in an excellent state of preservation."



# **Pre-1931: From classic texts and current records to special collections**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Library Building: Varsi Hall (1931-1964)

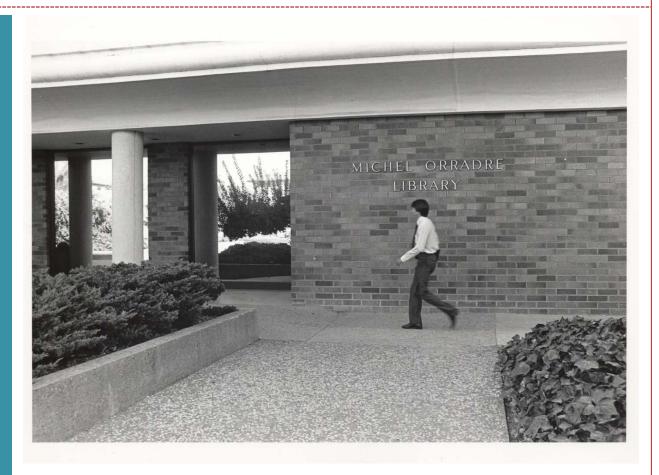
Construction for this building commenced on March 12, 1931, and the building was dedicated on October 10, 1931.



# **1931: Consolidation of library collections in Varsi Hall**

2<sup>nd</sup> Library Building: Orradre Library (1964-2008)

Exterior photograph of Orradre Library. Varsi's holdings were transferred to Orradre in 1964



# **1964: Collections moved to expansive Orradre Library**

3<sup>rd</sup> Library Building: Harrington Learning Commons

Archives & Special Collections unite!



### 2008: Archives & Special Collections formally established

1<sup>st</sup> Archivist: Fr. Edward Boland

Fr. Boland is standing at the center of a group of junior class students, 1914.



### **Origins of A&SC Staffing**

### Staffing

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Staffing of Archives & Special Collections, 2000-2014

*Italics denote staff positions prior to the reorganization.* 

\*temporary position

Position	Date (FTE)
University Archivist	2000 (0.5, 1.0)
Public Services Coordinator	2005 (1.0)
Head of A&SC	2009 (1.0)
Digital Initiatives Librarian	2012 (1.0)
SpColl Librarian (temp thru FY17)*	2014 (0.5)
Archives Processing Assistant	2014 (1.0)
Digital Initiatives Assistant	2014 (1.0)
Cataloging Specialist	2014 (1.0)

## **Resources & Digital Services Unit, FY14**

# **Resources & Digital Services**



## **Resources & Digital Services Unit, FY15**

# **Resources & Digital Services**



# "Taking Our Pulse"

### ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

# **Charting A Path Forward**

#### ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS WINTER PLANNING RETREATS

## **Status of Archives & Special Collections**

### Panitch, 2001

### Dooley & Luce, 2010

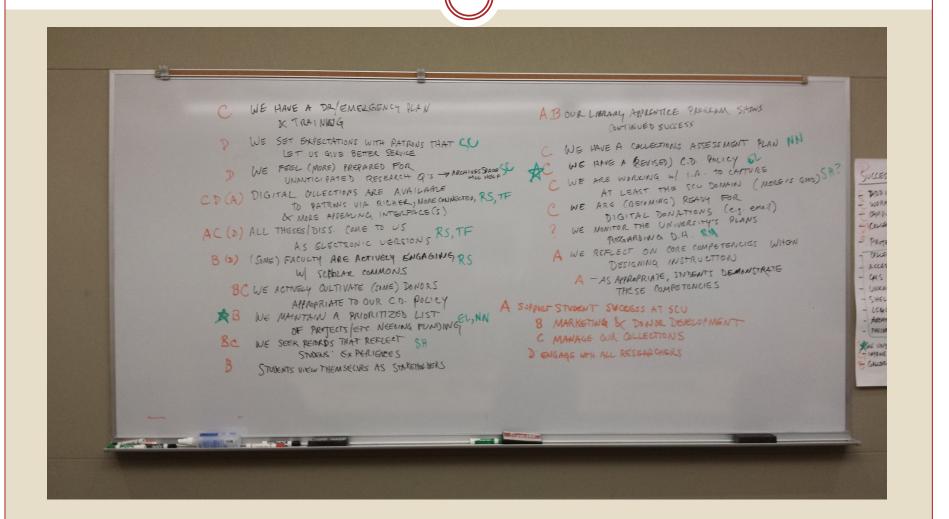
"Special collections in ARL Libraries: results of the 1998 survey sponsored by the ARL Research Committee"

- Surveyed 124 research libraries in North America
- Reported overall positive status for special collections
- Highlighted hidden collections

"Taking our pulse: the OCLC Research Survey of Special Collections and Archives"

- Built on Panitch Report
- Surveyed 275 research libraries in North America
- Continued positive status for special collections
- Highlighted increase in hidden collections
- Identified new challenges

## **Charting a Path Forward**



### Manage and Preserve Our Collections

Priority 1

- Articulate and communicate a cohesive vision for collection development
- Fine-tune our holdings and assess the magnitude of our backlog
- Create or enhance descriptive records to improve access to archival, special, and digital collections
- Identify and address preservation issues, and develop and implement a collections disaster recovery plan and training program
- Engage in the acquisition and management of born digital material
- Strategically and judiciously increase our holdings on an annual basis

### Support Student Success

Priority 2

- Facilitate student use of archival, special, and digital collections through classroom instruction and reference services
- Collaborate with faculty and subject librarians to increase use of archival, special, and digital collections in classroom instruction
- Assess classroom instruction, keeping in mind important core competencies for using archival, special, and digital collections
- Extend the pilot apprentice program into an ongoing, competitive internship program

### Engage With All Researchers

Priority 3

- Develop richer, more connected, and more appealing interfaces through which we make archival, special, and digital collections accessible
- Enhance our services, particularly in ways that expand virtual access to archival, special, and digital collections
- Collaborate with faculty to encourage development of new courses using archival, special, and digital collections
- Facilitate use of archival, special, and digital collections by patrons external to the SCU community

Marketing and Donor Development

Priority 4

- Develop outreach programs to encourage donations of University records and increase faculty engagement with ScholarCommons
- Seek records that reflect the voices and experiences of SCU students
- Cultivate donors whose interests align with our collecting focus
- Create exhibits showcasing archival, special, and digital collections
- Develop and maintain a prioritized list of projects for special funding

## A&SC Strategic Priorities, 2016-2018

#### ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY