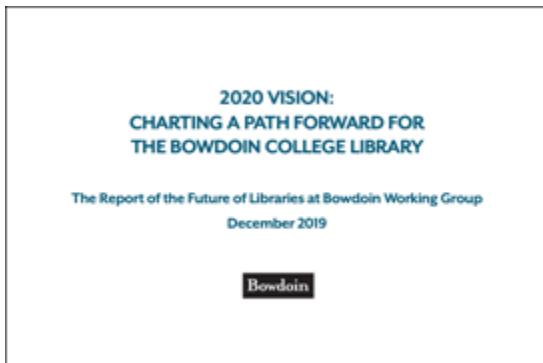




Bowdoin

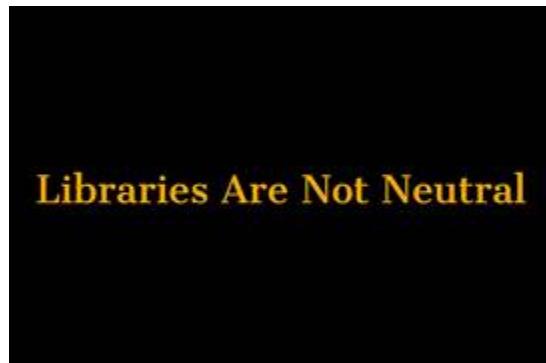
# The Bowdoin College Library Newsletter

June 2020



## [2020 Vision: Charting a Path Forward for the Bowdoin College Library](#)

The Report of the Future of Libraries at Bowdoin Working Group



## [Bowdoin College Library Commitment to Anti-Racism](#)

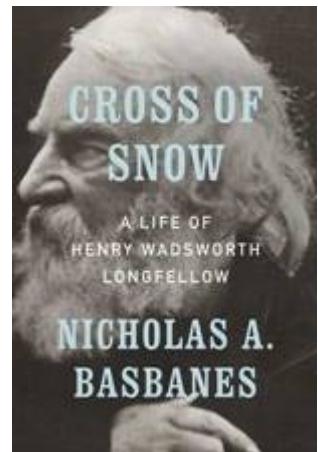
## Upcoming Event

### An Online Conversation with Nicholas Basbanes, author of *Cross of Snow: A Life of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

Monday, July 13th, at noon

Sponsored by the Bowdoin College Library and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations  
[Register here.](#)

The Library and Alumni Relations have partnered to celebrate the publication of Nicholas Basbane's new literary biography of Longfellow, which is an exploration of the life, times, work and soul of a man who helped to shape the literature of a new nation, and became in the process the most celebrated public figure of his generation. Basbanes spent a considerable amount of time on Bowdoin's campus, and materials from Special Collections & Archives are featured prominently in the book.



## Spring Semester Wrap Up

With the pivot to remote learning after spring break, the Library reorganized its work and continued to support the academic pursuits of students and faculty through a rapidly expanding suite of [remote services](#). Virtual Research, Scanning, and book Take-Out services were quickly developed; orders for e-book versions of physical texts were expedited; a creative workflow to accomplish film digitization off-site included daily DVD drops in a staff member's home mailbox; the submission process for the 85 students who completed honors projects was shifted entirely [online](#); and the Library's annual celebration of National Poetry Month was held [virtually](#). At the heart of the Library's success was its staff, which worked tirelessly to meet the needs of the campus in this extraordinary situation.



### By the numbers

148 ebooks ordered

379 articles and book chapters scanned

548 pages of archival documents scanned

99 films digitized

432 books provided through the Library Take-Out Service

658 articles provided from other institutions through Interlibrary Loan

9 class sessions taught by librarians

762 research questions and consultations recorded

## Summer at the Libraries

The majority of the Library's staff continue to work remotely and those on campus are focused on managing our physical collections and preparing facilities for the fall semester. Library buildings will remain closed through the summer, though staff assistance and collections are available.



- For help, use our [virtual assistance](#) service or reach us by phone at **207-725-3280**.
- Bowdoin's physical collections are available to faculty, staff, and students through the [Take-Out Service](#). Pick-up hours have been expanded to 12-5 Monday-Friday.
- Books from Bates may now be requested through [CBBcat](#) (Colby has not yet made its collections available). Delivery to Bowdoin is currently scheduled twice/week. We anticipate daily delivery will return in mid-July.
- Requests for access to specialized equipment housed in H-L can be directed to [Erin Valentino](#).
- We are providing a [suite of services](#) to support students who are engaged in academic work this summer.

We will share details about fall hours and services soon. We appreciate your patience and look forward to seeing you in person before too long.

## Documenting Bowdoin & COVID-19

In response to the COVID pandemic, Special Collections & Archives is documenting Bowdoin's response during this unprecedented historical moment. Meagan Doyle, the Library's Digital Archivist, is preserving the College's official messages around COVID by archiving emails and websites, while also working with members of the broader community to

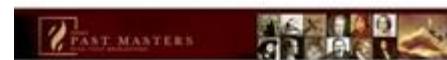
capture personal experiences through the [Documenting Bowdoin & COVID-19](#) initiative. Bowdoin students, alumni, faculty, and staff are encouraged to reflect on their experiences during the pandemic, in any form, and consider contributing their stories to the Archives. [Explore the stories](#) and consider submitting your own.



## Noteworthy Additions to the Library's Collections

Thanks to continued support from generous donors, the collections of the Library's [George J. Mitchell Department of Special Collections & Archives](#) have expanded in important ways over the past several months. Of particular note is a major acquisition of an early American medical book collection, the library of Dr. John Hubbard, Maine governor and father of Thomas Hubbard, for whom Hubbard Hall is named. A gift of the Hubbard Free Library, the collection of more than 260 volumes affords researchers a window into the life and work of a 19th-century physician operating a solo practice in the bustling riverside town of Hallowell.

The Library's new digital collections include the [San Francisco Chronicle Historical Archive](#) (1869-1984), which fills a major gap for historical west-coast primary sources, and the JSTOR Lives of Literature collection (integrated into [JSTOR](#)), which includes 100 journals devoted to the deep study of writers and texts associated with core literary movements, from medieval authors and texts to literary theorists. Music researchers will appreciate the move from print to electronic access for [RRIMO](#), Recent Researches in Music Online, and we have purchased the digital edition of the fifty-volume [The Works of St. Augustine](#). The library is also supporting a paid one-year trial through December to [Sources Chrétiennes Online](#), a collection of patristic writings which includes the original text (usually Greek or Latin, though at times Syriac, Arabic, or Georgian), accompanied by a French translation, notes, and an introduction that situates the work in its historical and doctrinal contexts.



## Digital Exhibits

Special Collections & Archives' exhibit program highlights and contextualizes unique materials from the collections to explore themes such as College history, science, and book arts. In a shift to supporting remote access, several new digital exhibits complement a [range of previously available online content](#). To commemorate the 2020 Bowdoin Reunion, [six exhibits](#) explore and celebrate the Classes of 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, and 1985 through photographs and archival documents. And for those missing the monthly Audubon page-turnings, there is a rich site dedicated to [Bowdoin's copy of the double-elephant folio Birds of America](#) that examines the provenance and importance of this book, and includes a full archive of past page-turning speakers and links to video livestreams.



## Staff Transitions

The Library will soon bid farewell to Joan Campbell and Anne Haas, both of whom will retire this summer.

Joan Campbell came to Bowdoin in October 2006 to serve as Collections Librarian. In that role, her work has centered on building and managing the Library's collections, but that tells only part of the story. She has led and actively participated in myriad Library projects including web design, scholarly communication, and most recently, planning for the Library Annex. She founded Bowdoin Reads in 2008, provided support to students and faculty as liaison for the English and Philosophy Departments, and served on a variety of College committees. Over the course of her tenure, Joan has planned and facilitated uncountable collections moves, expertly navigated changes in publication formats and licensing schemes, worked tirelessly with our Bates and Colby colleagues to develop collaborative projects, and gained a reputation as a shrewd negotiator with the publishers and vendors who supply our materials. Joan is laser focused on the needs of students and faculty—a focus that has been at the forefront of all of her work and benefits the entire campus community. Her insight and acuity are visible in much of what we do as a Library, notably among the collections to which she has been extraordinarily committed over the past fourteen years. And it is the Library collections, as they have matured over the course of a decade, that will serve as a lasting tribute to Joan, her principled work, dedication, and collegiality.



Anne Haas will leave Bowdoin after serving for 34 years as Art Librarian. Throughout her tenure, Anne has been a staunch advocate for the Art Library and the faculty and students she serves. She has painstakingly developed the Library's collections, shepherding them into the digital age, and has creatively conquered the challenges of working within the confines of the Art Library's limited space in the Visual Arts Center. She is devoted to her students—those who work as student employees and the art students she supports in her liaison role—serving as a mentor to many. Over the years she has contributed to and participated in a multitude of Library-wide initiatives, including, most recently, overseeing the Ramp Gallery, the student gallery space in Hawthorne-Longfellow Library. Anne will be missed as both an essential presence in the Visual Arts Center and as a treasured member of our staff community.



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