

Marvin & Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection

2016-2017 Report of Activities

Special Projects

- *Marvin & Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection* newspaper project: This year Special Collections staff worked with Technical Services to catalog the expansive holdings of newspapers in the Weiner Collection. To date, 88 titles (plus all the issues associated with individual titles) have been cataloged. This will allow patrons and outside researchers to identify and access these valuable newspapers.
- Special Collections Assistant, Annaleah Morse, created Instagram and Tumblr accounts and makes posts highlighting items from the Weiner Collection and Special Collections. We now have 516 followers on Instagram and 595 followers on Tumblr.
- Special Collections Assistant, Annaleah Morse, created a brochure for the collection. The brochure is under review for revisions.

Exhibit

The *Marvin & Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection: Colonial America Exhibition* examined colonial American history through the topics of trade, religion, agriculture, government, and taxes. The exhibit featured rare books and pamphlets from the Weiner collection and included the best research papers from Dr. Jason Sharpel's Fall 2016 graduate class on Colonial America. The students were required to use primary resources from the *Spirit of America Collection* as part of their research to be considered for inclusion in the exhibit. Five papers were selected for the exhibit and also included a student bio and at least one of the books or pamphlets they used for their research. An exhibit catalog is forthcoming and will include James Turner's research paper, "Fleeing Tyranny, Finding Coercion: Buccaneers' Perceptions and Reactions to Unfree Labor in

the Seventeenth Century Caribbean.”

Adriane Finucane, PhD., FAU History Department, gave a lecture in conjunction with the exhibit. The lecture, “Trade and Trouble in Colonial America,” was held on the 5th floor and open to the public. The exhibit was open for tours from February 20th through April 28th and had a total of 198 visitors.

Instruction and Tours

Special Collections Librarian Victoria Thur assisted by Assistant Special Collections Librarian Teresa Van Dyke use the valuable primary resources available in the Weiner Collection to promote critical thinking, research activities, and student engagement. This year the History, English, and Language and Linguistics departments took advantage Ms. Thur’s expertise in primary sources and hands-on teaching approach. A total of **461** students and patrons were introduced to the *Marvin and Sybil Weiner Spirit of America Collection* through tours and teaching sessions for the following classes:

Summer 2016

- Tour of Special Collections and the Weiner Collection to SLS students(Student Success) ; (24 students)
- Tour of Special Collections and the Weiner Collection to Navitas students; (18 students)

Fall Semester 2016

- Dr. Jason Sharples’s Graduate History class, AMH 6939/Colonial America; (8 students); 8/24 /17 & 8/30/2017
- Dr. Karen Leader’s class, ARH 4610/American Painting & Sculpture (40 students)
- Dr. Karen Leader’s ARH 4937/ Art History Senior Seminar; (5 students);
- Dr. Stephen Engle’s class, AMH 4170/Civil War & Reconstruction; (15 students)
- Dr. Rosemary Rahill’s class, FRE 3340/French for Bilinguals; (10 students)
- Dr. Ulin’s class, ENG 4932/Honors Seminar; (10 students) ;

- Dr. Ulin's class, ENG 3822/Intro to Literary Studies; (24 students)
- Dr. Shannon's class, HIS 3150/Historical Methods; (20 students)
- Dr. Ulin's ENG4932/Honors Seminar; (10) students)
- Dr. Ben Lowe's class, EUH 4144/Reformation Europe; (15 students)
- Dr. Gabriella Munson's class, LIT 6066/Medieval Literature; (10 students)
- Dr. Velaquez's class, ART 2400/Printmaking I; (18 students)
- Dr. Velaquez's class, ART 2401/Printmaking II; (18 students)
- Tours of Special Collections and the Weiner Collection to Jewish Women's Organization; (14 attendees); OURI (15 students); Life Long Learning (10 students); Navitas (12 students)

Spring Semester 2017

- Dr. Jarrett Warshaw's class, ED 6065/History of Higher Ed; (11 students)
- Dr. Karen Leader's class, ARH 4371/ 18th & 19th Century Art; (39 students)
- Dr. Adrian Finucane's class, HIS 3150/Historical Methods; (12 students)
- Dr. Adrian Finucane's class, AMH 4620/Religion in Colonial America; (19 students)
- Dr. Mary Faraci's class, ENL 2022/British Literature; (20 students)
- Dr. Ben Lowe's class EUH 6939/Reformation; (9 students)
- Dr. Jason Sharple's class, AMH 4110/Colonial America; (28 students)
- Tour of the Colonial America exhibit to the Jewish Conservative Women's Organization; (20 attendees)

Student Participation

- David Glauber, University of South Florida MLS student, completed an internship during 2017 Spring semester. He assisted with research and writing captions for the Colonial America exhibit. He also staffed the exhibit.
- Bradley Williams, graduate history student, completed a Directed Independent Study with Special Collections Department during the 2017 Spring semester. He

assisted with research and topics for the for the upcoming Reformation exhibit in Fall 2017.

Collection Maintenance

- Shelf maintenance is performed regularly in the Weiner stacks
- 3,120 items been cataloged
- The stacks are being shifted to make room for the newspaper collection
- The temperature and humidity is constantly monitored with email updates through the HOBO environmental monitoring system