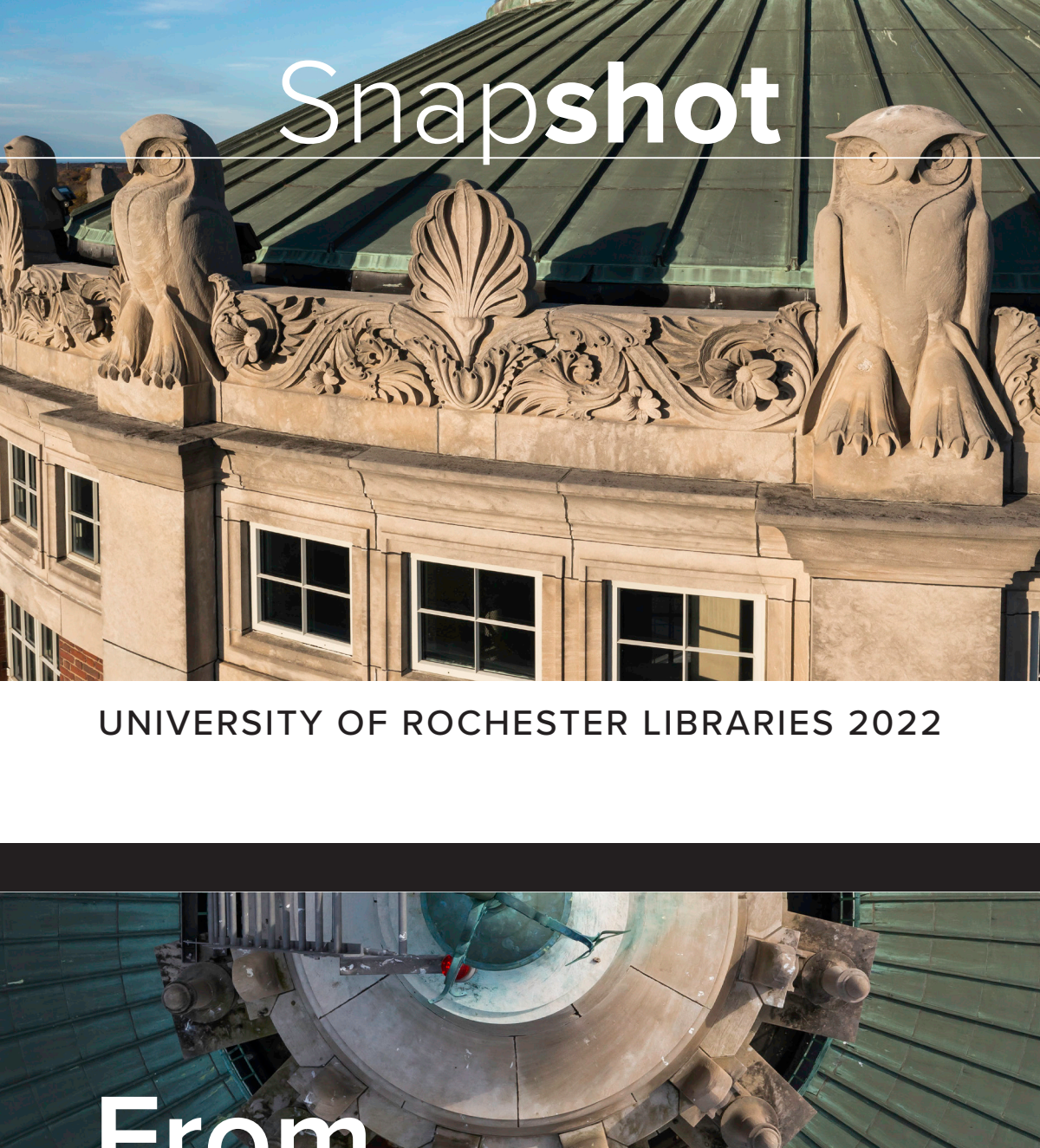


Snapshot



UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER LIBRARIES 2022



From Our Dean

Looking down on Rush Rhees Library tower from above

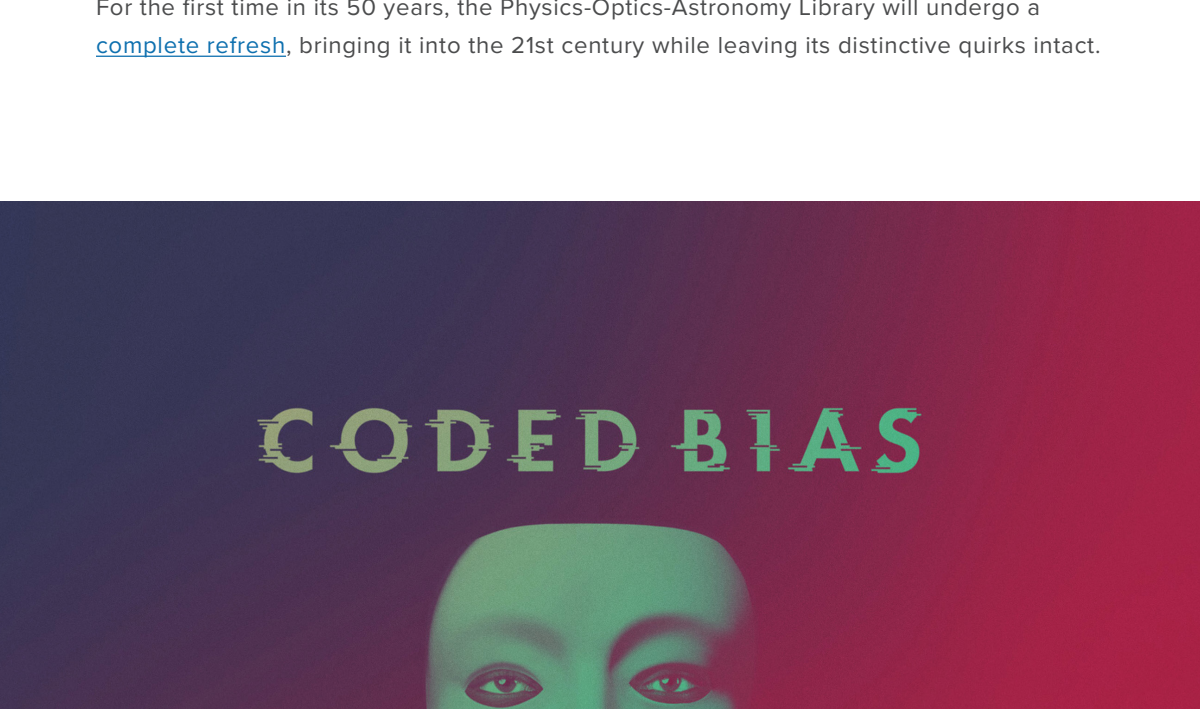
Given this is my first year as dean and my first time appearing in this publication, an introduction of sorts seems in order. But, in the spirit of a snapshot, I'll be brief.

First and foremost, I love libraries. I love their role in creating, sharing, and preserving knowledge. I love how they underpin teaching and research. And I love the people who make it all possible—this includes many alumni, parents, and friends whose generous feedback, counsel, and gifts provide integral support. Hopefully, you will see this passion manifest in our libraries' advancement. I will strive to make every facet of who we are an exemplar of *Melliora*.

I've learned a lot in my first year and still feel like I've only scratched the surface. However, one thing I'm sure of is that the pages that follow cover only a small fraction of the amazing work that happens across our libraries. It is truly a glimpse into all that we do to support the University's mission to Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—and Make the World Ever Better, and I'm proud to stand behind it.

Kevin Garewal
Kevin R. Garewal

Vice Provost
Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly Dean
University of Rochester Libraries



Karp Library Fellow **Muhammed El-Sayed '23**, an XR specialist and researcher, helps Jennifer Reisch P'23 with a Meta Quest 2 headset at Studio X's grand opening.

Techy. Quirky. Contemporary.

Rochester's hub for extended reality (XR) is now officially the Mary Ann Mavrincac Studio X. *"Take a moment to applaud"*

During *Melliora* Weekend, the University formally dedicated Studio X and celebrated its grand opening, recognizing its namesake, former dean of libraries Mary Ann Mavrincac. But the XR space was plenty busy beforehand, closing out a soft launch period that included teaming up with faculty members like Dujie Tadin, a professor of brain and cognitive sciences, to explore [how humans process light and sound](#). Studio X also held several editions of its speaker series *Voices of XR*—welcoming guests such as philosopher [David Chalmers](#)—and events that allowed the University community to experiment and experience XR tech firsthand.

Additionally, a "hidden" gem among the River Campus Libraries is getting a serious polish. For the first time in its 50 years, the Physics-Optics-Astronomy Library will undergo a [complete refresh](#), bringing it into the 21st century while leaving its distinctive quirks intact.



CODED BIAS

A SHALINI KANTAYYA FILM

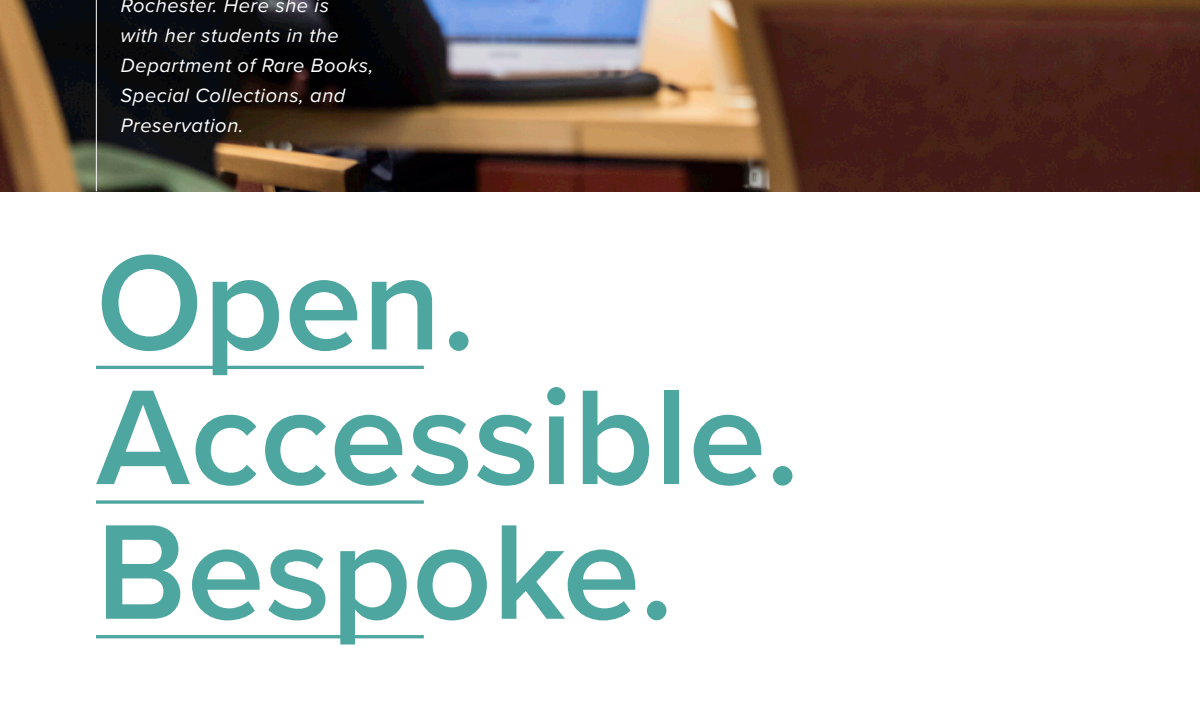
Coded Bias is among the 36 resources in the new BIPOC STEM collection. The film explores the fallout of MIT computer scientist Joy Buolamwini's discovery that facial recognition does not see dark-skinned faces accurately.

Unbiased. Inclusionary. Empowering.

We're committed to supporting and celebrating all races, ethnicities, and places of origin; levels of ability; religious beliefs; sexualities; and gender identities. Not only are we committed to that being evident in our spaces, services, and collections, but we're also working to ensure that diversity and equity exist throughout academia.

A team of librarians set out to highlight Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) experiences and research in the STEM fields. Through a [BIPOC STEM Project](#), they developed and acquired resources to help dismantle the systemic racism that has shaped the scientific community and dissolve existing bias. However, bias isn't exclusive to the BIPOC community. A River Campus Libraries team helped bring [digital justice](#) to the LGBTQIA+ and Black communities through the Rochester Digital Annotation Project, which creates metadata to make resources more discoverable.

But working to right decades of wrongs isn't enough. That's why we're [nurturing interests in librarianship](#) among first-generation, historically underrepresented, and international students.



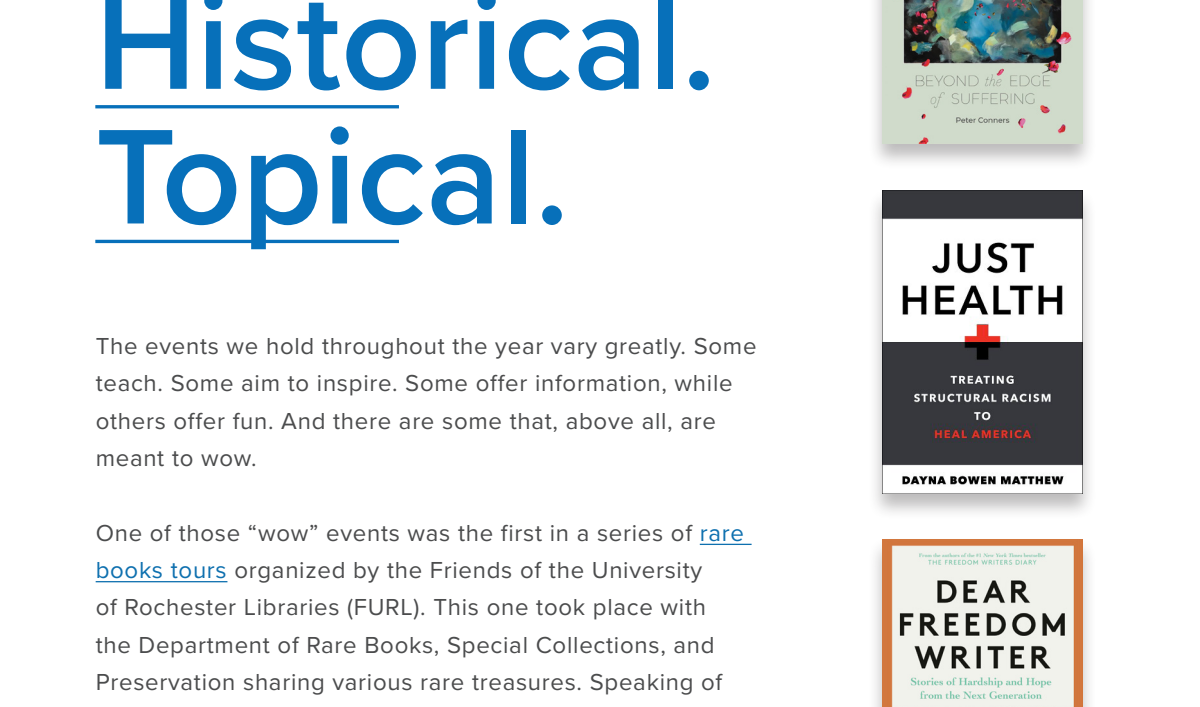
Various items from the Robert and Louise Slaughter Family Papers collection

Local. National. Global.

We don't typically think of our collections in terms of geography, but this year brought to us some acquisitions and opportunities that strengthened or demonstrated our connection to the surrounding Rochester community and the world beyond.

In April, the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation (RBSCP) received the papers of [Peter Conners](#), publisher and executive director of BOA Editions, Ltd., a Rochester-based independent publishing house. Conners has authored 13 published works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. RBSCP also received the [Robert and Louise Slaughter Family Papers](#), a gift from the Slaughter family that supplements the Louise M. Slaughter Congressional Collection. And toward the end of the year, we put out [Silent Sounds, Invisible Images](#), a multimedia exhibition of the University's recorded history from the 1920s to the present.

We were also proud to identify ourselves as a protector of Ukrainian culture. As stewards of the [Ukrainian Rochester Collection](#), we are helping to preserve Ukraine's identity during a war attempting to erase it.



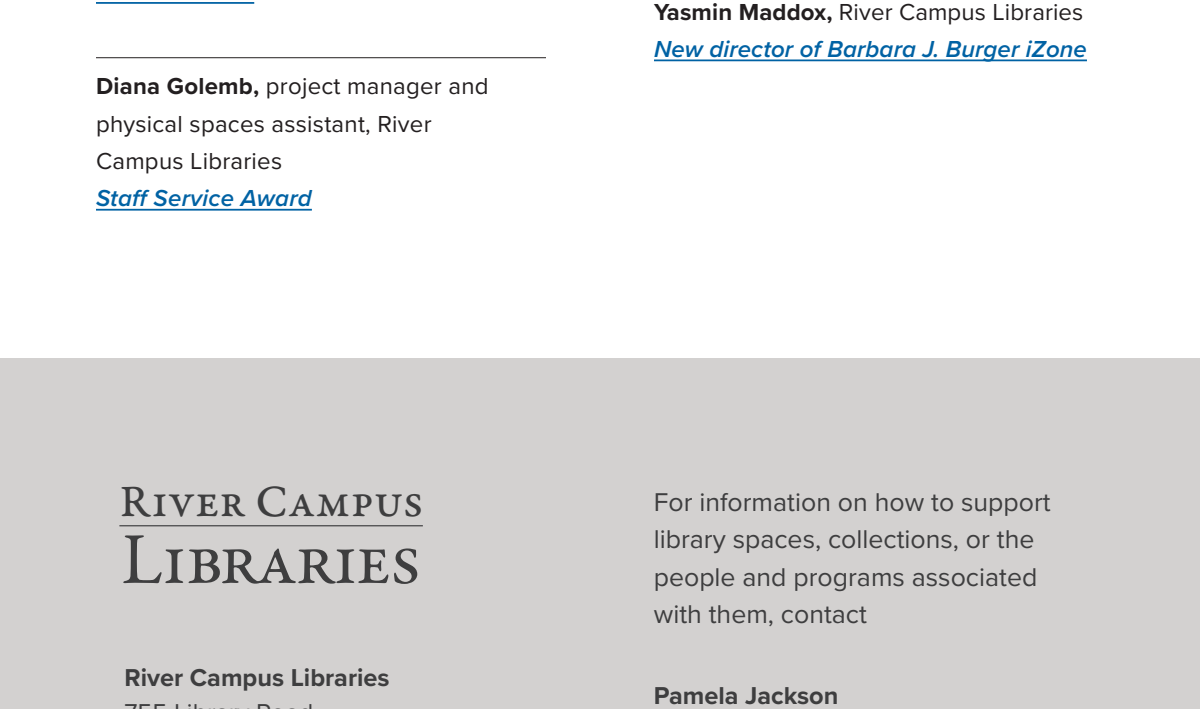
Humanities librarians are working to shine a brighter light on humanities research, like the kind being conducted by [Laura Ackerman Smoller](#), a history professor at Rochester. Here she is with her students in the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation.

Open. Accessible. Bespoke.

It's time to wade into the weeds a bit. Not so deep that you'll get lost but deep enough to see some of the less conspicuous ways we supported research and worked to make information and knowledge readily available.

For the third consecutive year, we made sure student research on the River Campus didn't stop because of a lack of resources. Through the [data grant program](#), we funded research projects at the Simon Business School and within the Departments of Economics, Earth and Environmental Sciences, and Political Science. And with support from the History Research and Innovation Award, a group of humanities librarians began developing a [publication analysis toolkit](#) to ensure the extent and value of humanities research is easily understood.

Finally, in the open-access realm, we established [new publishing agreements](#) making scholarship more open, affordable, transparent, and, ultimately, sustainable for the faculty. We also struck a [retroactive deal](#) that made Rochester-authored content between 1986 and 2000 open to everyone.



Pages from a mid-15th-century devotional miscellany shared during the FURL-organized showcase in Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation

Whimsical. Historical. Topical.

The events we hold throughout the year vary greatly. Some teach. Some aim to inspire. Some offer information, while others offer fun. And there are some that, above all, are meant to wow.

One of those "wow" events was the first in a series of [rare books tours](#) organized by the Friends of the University of Rochester Libraries (FURL). This one took place with the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation sharing various rare treasures. Speaking of FURL, member and [Gilbert & Sullivan](#) authority Hal Kanthor '66M (MD) gave a talk on how the duo influenced 19th-century advertising.

We also welcomed authors [Peter Conners](#) (*Beyond the Edge of Suffering*), [Erin Gruwell](#) (*Dear Freedom Writers*), and [Dayna Bowen Matthew](#) (*Just Health*) to help us honor the 75th anniversary of the Department of Psychiatry in a special season of the Neilly Author Series. And then, summoning our inner *Dungeons & Dragons* player, we created the new game-playing series ["Towers & Tabletops."](#)

Cover art for the first three books highlighted in the 2022–23 Neilly Author Series season

Expert. Exceptional. Exemplary.

Our people consistently provide reminders of their proficiency and willingness to go the extra mile and then keep going. We can confidently claim that the students, staff, and former staff listed below are shining examples of what superior librarianship looks like not only at the University of Rochester but also in librarianship at large.

David Peter Coppen, special collections librarian and archivist, Sibley Music Library
[Messinger Award](#)

Ayiana Crabtree '22, Karp Library Fellow; XR researcher and XR specialist, River Campus Libraries
[Dean's Student Library Employee Service Award](#)

Steffi Delcourt '14 (MA), office assistant, River Campus Libraries
[Dean's Student Library Employee Service Award](#)

Diana Golemb, project manager and physical spaces assistant, River Campus Libraries
[Staff Service Award](#)

Meredith Gozo, curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, Edward G. Miner Libraries
[Julia F. Sollenberger Award](#)

Christopher Hoolihan, librarian emeritus of Rare Books and Manuscripts, Edward G. Miner Libraries
[Metzdorf Award](#)

Sadia Hussain, technology analyst and software engineer, Sibley Music Library
[Staff Service Award](#)

Yasmin Maddox, River Campus Libraries
[New director of Barbara J. Burger IZone](#)

RIVER CAMPUS LIBRARIES

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For information on how to support library spaces, collections, or the people and programs associated with them, contact

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