Kent State University Libraries’ May 4 Collection will be digitally captured with the funding assistance of a $119,443 matching grant, provided by the National Historical Publications & Records Commission (NHPRC). The digitization of more than 72,000 documents will allow users to explore the May 1970 shootings at the university and the context surrounding them through free, online access at www.library.kent.edu/special-collections-and-archives/nhprc. “Kent State Shootings: Actions & Reactions,” codirected by Cara Gilgenbach, head of Special Collections and Archives, and Virginia Dressler, digital projects librarian, aims to digitally scan original materials from a variety of collections that are part of University Libraries’ May 4 archive to present a range of reactions to the events of May 1-4, 1970, which left four students dead and nine students wounded by Ohio Army National Guard troops. Included in the project are faculty collections containing correspondence received from students whose coursework was cut short by the shootings; Kent State administrative records and community reactions, such as those represented in the papers of LeRoy Satrom, mayor of the City of Kent in May 1970; reactions from college students across the country and around the world; and artistic responses to this pivotal moment in U.S. history. The University Libraries’ May 4 Collection is comprised of more than 300 cubic feet of primary sources.

Pepperdine University Libraries has been awarded a $300,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a sustainable preservation storage environment for humanities materials. Titled “Pepperdine University Libraries: Developing a Sustainable Preservation Environment for Humanities Collections,” the project will upgrade climate and security systems (including HVAC, lighting, fire suppression, shelving, and building envelope improvements) in Pepperdine’s Special Collections and University Archives. The resulting preservation environment, which will use the latest standards and approaches to sustainable preservation, will not only extend the usable life of rare and valuable humanities materials, but will also serve as a demonstration project for showcasing preventive preservation strategies that can be employed by cultural institutions of all types.

Acquisitions

Papers from retiring U.S. Senator Harry Reid have been acquired by the Special Collections Department at the University of Nevada-Reno. Reid has been in office as a U. S. Senator since 1987, having held other offices within Nevada at the local and state levels of government and serving two terms as a U. S. Representative. Reid’s papers will join the department’s growing Nevada Political Archive and will become the cornerstone for future public and academic programs, including lectures, exhibits, symposia, and publications.

The collection of artist and activist Sabra Moore has been acquired by Barnard College. The Sabra Moore NYC Women’s Art Movement Collection includes records from Moore’s years in the feminist political artist group Heresies Collective, work as a counselor at the first legal abortion clinic in New York, and memorabilia from the 1984 protest of the Museum of Modern Art’s lack of inclusivity, and 20 original artworks from her contemporaries. Moore’s memoir, which draws heavily from these records, captures the experience of women artists in the 70s and 80s and provides a richer understanding of historical feminist activism.

Ed. note: Send your news to: Grants & Acquisitions, C&RL News, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; email: agalloway@ala.org.