

## Events Summary, November 2013

VCU Libraries sponsored 18 free and open to the public events since the start of August, with attendance of about 5,800. Events are coordinated through the development and community relations office. Events included:

- **VCU Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale:** The annual book sale raised over \$16,000 to benefit the programs and outreach sponsored by the VCU Friends of the Library. 35 volunteers spent over 200 hours assisting library staff in sorting donated materials, preparing for the sale, and staffing volunteer shifts during the weeklong sale. Over 3,000 people attended the sale.
- **2 talks in Cabell Library Special Collections and Archives:** Talks on the history of Richmond's independent-publishing scene and on racial protests in Prince Edward County in 1963 drew 130 attendees from the wider Richmond community.
- **2 talks by major figures in the comics industry:** Talks by James Sturm and Stephen R. Bissette, drew audiences of 250 and resulted in important connections and donations of materials to the Comics Arts Collection in Cabell Library Special Collections and Archives.
- **Opening receptions for 3 interdisciplinary exhibits:** Over 150 people attended opening receptions for an exhibit of photographs by Jeanne Schlesinger, "Digital Archaeology" exhibit, and an intimate afternoon talk by E.G. Crichton, artist in residence at the GLBT Historical Society of San Francisco, about her international "Migrating Archives" exhibit.
- **6 major research-focused workshops and seminars:** "Advance Your Research @ Cabell Library," an all-day series of workshops intended principally for graduate students, 2 brown-bag sessions in the "Digital Pragmata" interdisciplinary series on digital initiatives in the humanities, and "Open Access Week," a national initiative focusing on open-access academic publishing.
- **1 major student orientation event:** The annual "Library Fest" at Cabell Library brought approximately 1,700 students through the doors to participate in tours and visit information booths throughout the library.
- **2 major archival tours:** As part of the annual WRIR Richmond music history tour, Cabell Library Special Collections and Archives gave a tour to 50 community members, showing archival materials from the collections. The annual "Grave Robbing, Goblins and Ghouls" tour and talk, on 19th-century medical practices, at Tompkins-McCaw library was attended by approximately 40.
- **2 sponsorships:** VCU Libraries provided support for the Levis Reading Prize poetry event and for the James River Writers Festival.
- **VCU Libraries Presents event brochure** was mailed to over 14,000 alumni, friends, businesses and supporters in the metro Richmond area.

Upcoming fall events include:

- VCU Cabell First Novelist Festival: Tuesday Nov. 19
- Digital Pragmata: Curating Digital Objects, Thursday Nov. 21
- Exhibits in both libraries