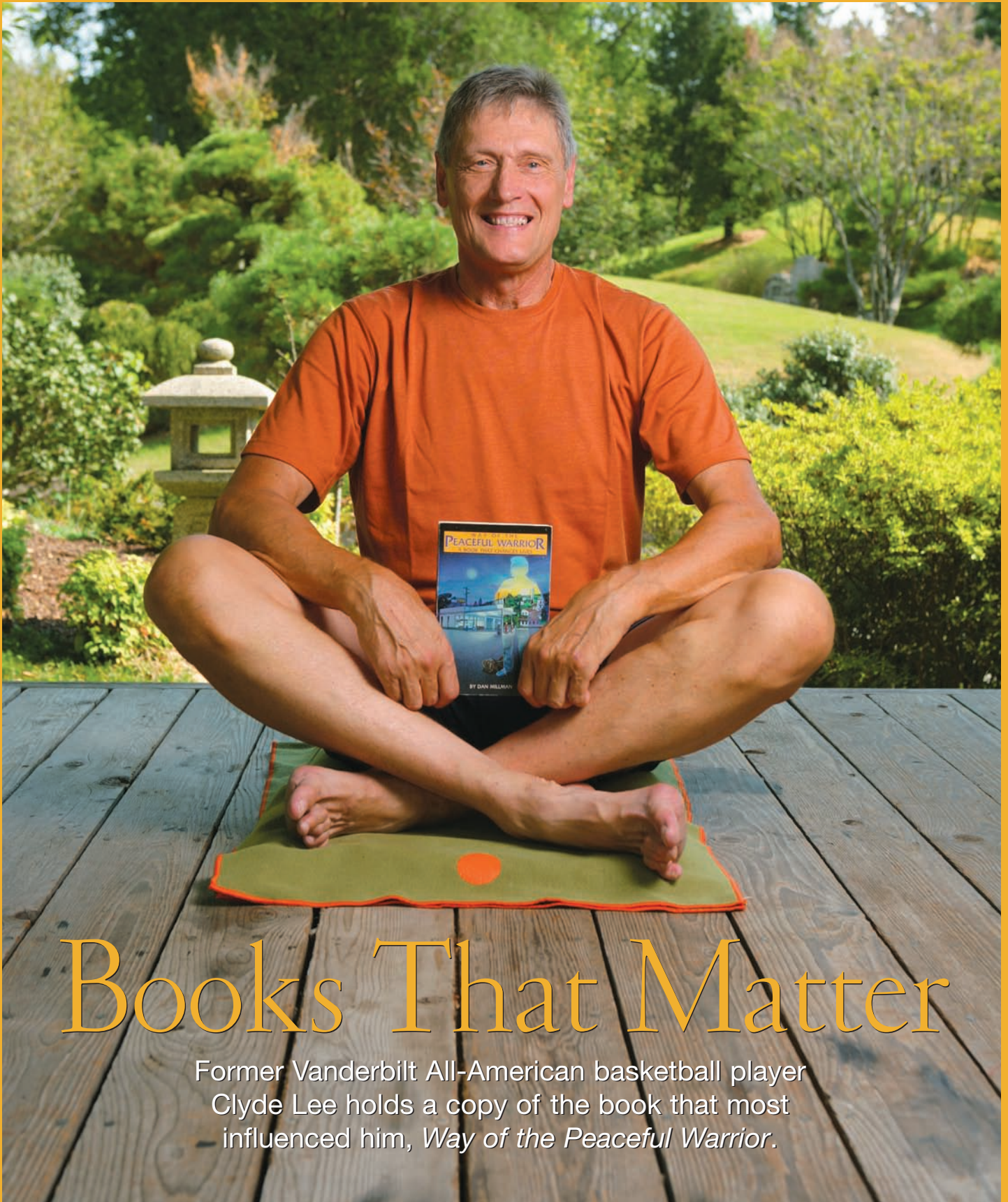


# ACORN Chronicle

PUBLISHED BY THE JEAN AND ALEXANDER HEARD LIBRARY • VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY • FALL 2007



## Books That Matter

Former Vanderbilt All-American basketball player Clyde Lee holds a copy of the book that most influenced him, *Way of the Peaceful Warrior*.



Paul M. Gherman  
University Librarian

**About the cover:**  
Former Vanderbilt All-American basketball player Clyde Lee holds a copy of *Way of the Peaceful Warrior* while doing yoga at Cheekwood's Japanese Garden, Shomu-en. Photo by Daniel DuBois.

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Each of us at some point must come to the end of our career, and I am approaching that point. I have informed the provost that I will be stepping down as university librarian after 12 years at the end of this academic year. As one approaches the end of working in a profession, it seems only proper to take a look back to see how things have changed and what progress has been made.

I began my first job in libraries in 1969 overseeing the storage facility at Wayne State University in Detroit where we housed all the books that would not fit on the shelves of Wayne State's main library. It is only fitting that one of the last major things I will accomplish at Vanderbilt is to acquire a second storage building to house the material that will not fit in our libraries. Growth is the watch word of libraries as each year we purchase millions of dollars worth of information to support the teaching and research of our academic community.

As one walks past the General Library Building nothing much seems to have changed since 1941 when it was first dedicated. But as one enters, the change becomes clear. The card catalog drawers around the lobby are empty because all our holdings are now on computer and accessible from anywhere in the world. More than 300 computer terminals provide users access not only to the catalog record of what we own, but also to the text of thousands of journals and hundreds of thousands of books. Our work of arranging knowledge book by book on the shelf is now supported by the ever widening web of information that exists on the Internet. Fewer of our patrons ever come to the library in person, but they find us wherever they need us at any time of day or night via the Web.

Our work has changed. We now run servers offering the world unique information that we have rescued from oblivion such as the national television news broadcasts via the Vanderbilt Television News Archive, or church records from Cuba and Brazil documenting the Diaspora of African slaves via those countries to North America. We collect Ugandan folk music by recording it in the bush and cataloging it and making it available to the world. We also host ETANA, Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives. ETANA contains rare books for the study of near east and actual archaeological exca-

vation details of many sites. Increasingly, the new work of libraries is to capture and preserve the results of research before and beyond the printed record.

We work with other organizations through many cooperative agreements to bring our students and faculty just the right information to meet their needs. Our interlibrary loan department is renowned for its ability to quickly find material at other libraries to support our faculty and graduate students. This year they begin a new service to deliver materials directly to faculty offices.

And we work with commercial business on research and development efforts. For more than a year we have worked with Ex Libris, a leading library automation company, to develop AlphaSearch, a tool to allow our users to easily poll many indexes and databases for answers to their queries. AlphaSearch will allow the library to better integrate itself into the user's path no matter where they seek information.

The library has transformed itself over the past decade; only the façade of the library remains the same. The change has been profound and far reaching as the very underpinning of libraries has changed. It has been my great privilege for this past decade to be a part of this change at Vanderbilt. Looking back, progress and change have been remarkable.

—PAUL M. GHERMAN

"I LIKE KNOWING THAT I'VE INVESTED MY MONEY IN A PLAN THAT HELPS ME DURING MY LIFETIME AND HELPS THE UNIVERSITY CONTINUE A PROGRAM I CARE DEEPLY ABOUT AFTER MY LIFETIME."

—J. León Helguera, professor of history, emeritus

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85	9.5%	\$950	\$5,474
90	11.3%	\$1,130	\$5,885

\*minimum age of 65 and gift amount of \$10,000. Rates as of October 2007.

### Walker, Carpenter Serve as Acting Directors of Peabody, Central Libraries

Celia Walker, director of communication and library advancement, has been serving as acting director of the Peabody Library since Sharon Weiner left in July. David Carpenter, head of reference at Vanderbilt, serves as the acting director of the Central Library. His appointment began with John Haar's retirement and will extend until a new director is hired and begins work. Carpenter has previously served as acting director of the Management Library.



Celia Walker

### Haar Retires After 14 Years with the Library

John Haar retired this summer from his position as associate university librarian for collections and director of the Central Library. During his tenure at Vanderbilt, Haar guided the library from one based solely on print to a robust digital repository accessible to Vanderbilt students and faculty from wherever and whenever they need information.



John Haar

He also played a key role in the devel-

opment of the Heard Library homepage and was instrumental in developing cooperative agreements with other area libraries and the Tennessee Electronic Library, which brought valuable databases to libraries across Tennessee. As director of the Central Library, Haar oversaw the evolution of instructional services, reference and interlibrary loan, as well as the enhancement of the building.

"John will be missed by all of us for his wisdom, insight, and friendship," said University Librarian Paul Gherman. "We wish him well in the next phase of his life."

### Wife Accepts Award for Late Husband T. Mark Hodges

Judith Hodges accepted the first T. Mark Hodges International Service Award named for her late husband, who served as the director of the Eskin Biomedical Library. The T. Mark Hodges International Service Award was established in 2007 by the Medical Library Association. The award honors outstanding individual achievement in promoting, enabling and/or delivering improvements in the quality of health information internationally through the development of health information professions, the improvement of libraries or an increased use of health information services.



T. Mark Hodges

## Committee on Undergraduate Information Literacy Promotes Students' Understanding of Research

BY FLO WILSON AND MELINDA BROWN

Imagine for a moment that a recent Vanderbilt graduate has taken a new job. The first big assignment she receives is to research public perception of a particular organization, one of which she's never heard. She first checks the Internet for an official Web site to find out more about the organization itself. Then she uses a database to search newspapers, magazines and trade journals for articles that mention the organization and evaluates which will be most relevant to her assignment.

In each of these steps the new graduate exhibits what is known as "information literacy," which the American Library Association and the Association of College and Research Libraries has defined as "a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate,

evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."

The importance of information literacy skills was recently highlighted in a 2006 national "Information Literacy Summit" held in Washington, D.C. The summit focused on "American Competitiveness in the Internet Age."

The Library recently joined with other units on the Vanderbilt campus to promote new students' understanding of research within the academic environment and more specifically to further the concept of improving students' information literacy. This group, initially an informal committee, is now recognized by the University's and Library's administrative structure and goes by the acronym CUIL (pronounced 'cool').

CUIL stands for the Committee on Undergraduate Information Literacy. *continued on page 11*

# NOW PEG CAN SLEEP

BY JOANNE LAMPHERE BECKHAM

It was two a.m. Once again, Peg Earheart lay awake confronting a real-life nightmare.

Her recurring *bête noir* featured a building filled to the brim with books and no place to store the truckloads of items she receives from the University libraries each month.

"We were at a crisis point," says Earheart, director of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library Annex. "At the current monthly rate of new transfers, there would not have been an inch left on any of the existing shelves to store one more book."

The Annex, which holds older and little-used books from the Heard Library system as well as Special Collections and University Archives, was in danger of running out of available space by May 2008, perhaps sooner.

But now help is on the way. The University recently purchased an additional facility not far from campus to house some of the overflow. The 38,000-square-foot building, after undergoing renovation, should be ready in the fall of 2008.

## The Problem

The current Annex is located two miles from campus in a building in the Hillsboro-West End neighborhood. It contains nearly 900,000 individual items occupying 107, 222 linear feet of shelving within the 30,000-square-foot building.

Every Vanderbilt library except the Eskind Biomedical Library stores materials in the Annex, making it the second largest collection in the Heard Library system. Each month the campus libraries transfer thousands of books, serials, periodicals, CDs, LPs, videotapes, manuscripts, microfilm and microfiche. The amount varies from month to month, but almost 9,800 transfers occurred in July 2007.

The Annex space problem stems from the fact that most Vanderbilt libraries are also overcrowded, according to University Librarian Paul Gherman.

"All the libraries, with the exception of Music, are full," he says. "For every new book we add, one must be transferred to the Annex."

The Heard Library buys about 50,000 new books a year. Each library determines which books to transfer, but the Annex no longer accepts duplicate copies.

Metro Code requirements and the historic neighborhood agreements prohibited the Annex from expanding on its present site. Because of special environmental and security needs, "renting space was not a good option, either," Earheart says.

The Annex strives to keep a consistent temperature of 68 degrees Fahrenheit and 47 percent humidity in order to preserve



Peg Earheart, director of the Library Annex, stands among the 900,000 books and items housed in the Annex.

the treasures within. Special Collections contains a number of very valuable books including the newly acquired Macklin Bible—one of the largest Bibles ever printed—law books from as far back as the 1700s, and the original library from the University of Nashville, which dates from the early 1800s.

## How it works

Although the Library Annex isn't open to the general public, patrons can ask that circulating Annex materials be sent to the university library of their choice.

"We provide twice daily shipments to all campus libraries," Earheart says.

Items requested online by 9:30 a.m. reach the circulating library by noon the same day. Those requested by 1:30 p.m. can be picked up that afternoon.

The Annex also offers a fax service that sends articles to patrons' office computers, something Earheart would like to expand.

Patrons can also seek permission to research large periodical sets and use fragile materials on site (please see sidebar).

Special Collections and University Archives materials have occupied about one-third of the building's floor space. "Even if we never accepted another book from the libraries, the archives would still have to come over," Earheart says.

The archives contain the University's historical record from the founding of the University of Nashville (Peabody College's predecessor) in 1826 to the present.

"The Board of Trust, the chancellor and every department in the University should have records in the archives," says Kathleen Smith, associate University archivist and associate director of Special Collections.

"Every time a chancellor leaves or arrives, we experience a surge of his materials in the archives," Smith says.

This fall, the archives received about 250 cubic feet of papers with Chancellor Gordon Gee's departure to become president of Ohio State University.

## Looking for a solution

The need for additional storage space is not unique to Vanderbilt.

"All research libraries are having the same problem," Earheart says, "though many of them have much larger storage facilities than Vanderbilt. We are maximizing every inch of space."

Beginning in 2000, the Annex began replacing fixed book shelves with electronic compact shelving, tripling the amount

of material each shelf can hold. Items are also stored by size rather than by call number, another space-saving measure.

The Online Computer Library Center, of which the Heard Library is a member, is developing the North American Storage Trust (NAST), "as a way for libraries to coordinate and share the storage of little used items," Gherman says. The library is also considering digitization of print journals. Such initiatives may ease the storage pressures somewhat.

The best solution, however, has been found with the pur-



Professor J. León Helguera examines some ancient documents in his Annex office.

chase of the additional facility to house Special Collections items and the archives currently in the Annex.

"Adding the new building should solve this issue for 15 to 20 years," Gherman says. "[And] it will be far less expensive than constructing a new building."

Maybe now Peg Earheart can get a good night's sleep.

## Vanderbilt Library Annex Is Treasure Trove for Research

Cecelia Tichi, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English, used the Library Annex on-site extensively while writing *Exposes and Excess: Muckraking in America 1900/2000*.

These days, the Annex continues to serve Tichi well while she works on her book-in-progress, *Exiting the Gilded Age: Six Americans Who Led the Way to a Better Future and What They Can Teach Us*.

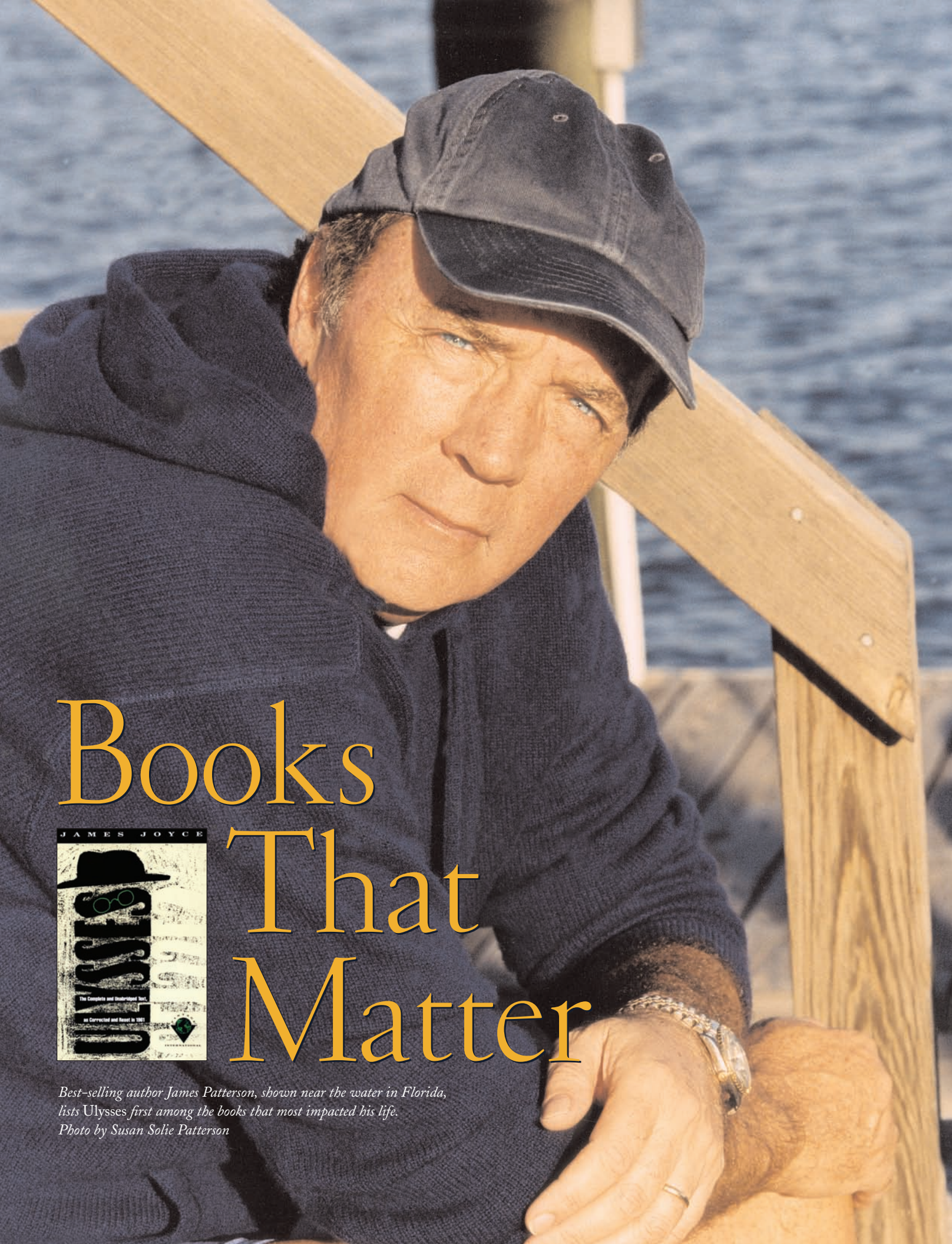
"The Annex is a treasure trove for my research," says Tichi, recipient of the 2007 Harvie Branscomb Distinguished Professor Award. "The 'golden oldies' housed there go far to bring to life the years in which

the U.S. struggled to evolve out of the Gilded Age into the Progressive Era.

"Often I approach the Central Library [Acorn] catalogue feeling dubious that certain esoteric titles would be in our holdings—only to find them snug and secure in the Annex, for which I silently thank an acquisitions librarian of decades ago."

Tichi's experience is just one example of how important the Annex is to the University, according to Associate Provost Dennis Hall.

"Without question," he says, "having access to a first-rate collection is one of the marks of a great university."



# Books That Matter



Best-selling author James Patterson, shown near the water in Florida, lists *Ulysses* first among the books that most impacted his life. Photo by Susan Solie Patterson

BY LEW HARRIS

## Which books matter

most in your life? That's the question we asked five lifelong readers. Even in the era of i-Pods, blogs, podcasts and satellite radio, a book you can hold in your hand still has the power to influence lives. Yes, books still matter.

### James Patterson Best-Selling Novelist

Books That Matter: *Ulysses* by James Joyce; *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez; *The Day of the Jackal* by Frederick Forsyth; *The Exorcist* by William Peter Blatty; *Mr. Bridge, Mrs. Bridge* (both by Evan S. Connell)

**B**est-selling novelist and Vanderbilt alumnus James Patterson found a unique place to read the books that have mattered most in his life. It occurred during summers and holidays while he was working his way through college.

"I got a job working in a mental hospital up in Cambridge, Mass.," says Patterson, MA'70. "It was a very good private hospital. I started reading a lot because I worked the night shift and there wasn't a lot to do other than staying awake. I started reading 10 or 12 books a week. It was all serious stuff. That's where I read *Ulysses* and where I read most of James Joyce for the first time—*Dubliners* and *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*."

Among the patients in the hospital was noted author and poet Robert Lowell, who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1947 at age 30 for his book, *Lord Weary's Castle*. He later wrote rigorously formal poetry that drew praise for its exceptionally powerful handling of meter and rhyme.

"It was very influential to me to meet Lowell," says Patterson. "He would sit in his room for half the day and talk about his poetry. It was great. Through Lowell, I met the great short story and fiction writer Peter Taylor, who was then over at Virginia and had attended Vanderbilt."

Ironically, both Lowell and Taylor, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his novel *A Summons to Memphis*, were taught and influenced by Allen Tate, BS'22, a member of the famed Fugitives writing group that originated at Vanderbilt.

Patterson lists *Ulysses* first among the list of books that mattered most to him. Close behind he rates *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. In another vein Patterson was influenced by *The Day of the Jackal*, *The Exorcist*, *Mr. Bridge* and *Mrs. Bridge*.

"In particular, *Ulysses* convinced me that I shouldn't even try to write a serious novel because nothing I could do could come close to the magic of Joyce," says Patterson. "*One Hundred Years of Solitude* just gave me a whole different way of fiction than I had experienced before. The notion of magic realism and creating a world that seemed realistic, but clearly wasn't, was very important to me."

### Kids Love Page Turners, Too!

**J**ames Patterson, who admits he was once a reluctant reader (but a good student), doesn't want today's kids to make the same mistake he did. He believes in the value of children reading.

"One of my real passions right now is getting kids to read," says Patterson. "One of the reasons is that I have a nine-year-old son. I think the best way to get kids to read is to give them something they're going to love. Once they find that they love stories and books, their hunger will dictate how far they go with it. I also absolutely believe that it is the responsibility of parents to find books that kids are going to love. That doesn't mean the books that some of us were tortured with in our own youths."

Patterson decided to do something about his passion by writing a book. His first foray into kid-accessible fiction, the *Maximum Ride* series, debuted on the *New York Times* bestsellers list at No. 1 and remained there for 12 straight weeks. The series has been on the *New York Times* bestsellers lists for more than 54 weeks and has been optioned for a motion picture. It all goes to prove that kids love page turners, too!

—Lew Harris



“*The Day of the Jackal* and *The Exorcist* were important because when I read those two, I said, ‘I kind of like these and, while I might not be able to do *Moby Dick*, it is conceivable that I could do something to rival *The Day of the Jackal*.’ *Mr. Bridge* and *Mrs. Bridge* by Evan S. Connell gave me a hunger for fiction that was a very economical kind of story-telling. They had very short, effective chapters. *Mrs. Bridge*, in particular, is a fabulous book.”

Patterson entered the graduate program in English at Vanderbilt intending to earn a doctorate. He was greatly influenced by the late English Professor Walter Sullivan, BA’47, who saw something in the young graduate student and encouraged him to write fiction.

Believing it unrealistic to think he could make a living writing novels, Patterson opted to enter the ad agency world after completing his master’s degree. He rose to become CEO of advertising behemoth J. Walter Thompson, North America during a 20-year career and wrote novels on the side.

“Toward the end, I had started the (detective) Alex Cross novels so I had three or four bestsellers,” Patterson says. “I finally said, ‘Enough of this. We’re going to do something else.’ I was 44 or so.”

He is the bestselling author of the past year with more than 12 million books sold in North America alone. In total, Patterson’s books have sold an estimated 130 million copies worldwide. He is the first author to have two titles simultaneously debut at No. 1 on the *New York Times* adult and children’s lists.

## Clyde Lee

Former Vanderbilt All-American and  
NBA Basketball Player

Book That Matters: *Way of the Peaceful Warrior*  
by Dan Millman

Clyde Lee, BS’70, was a consensus All-American basketball player at Vanderbilt. His jersey was the first ever to be retired and hangs in the rafters at Memorial Gym. The two balconies on the south side of Memorial Gym are known as “The balconies that Clyde built” because the great teams he led created a demand for additional seating. Lee went on to play 10 years in the NBA.

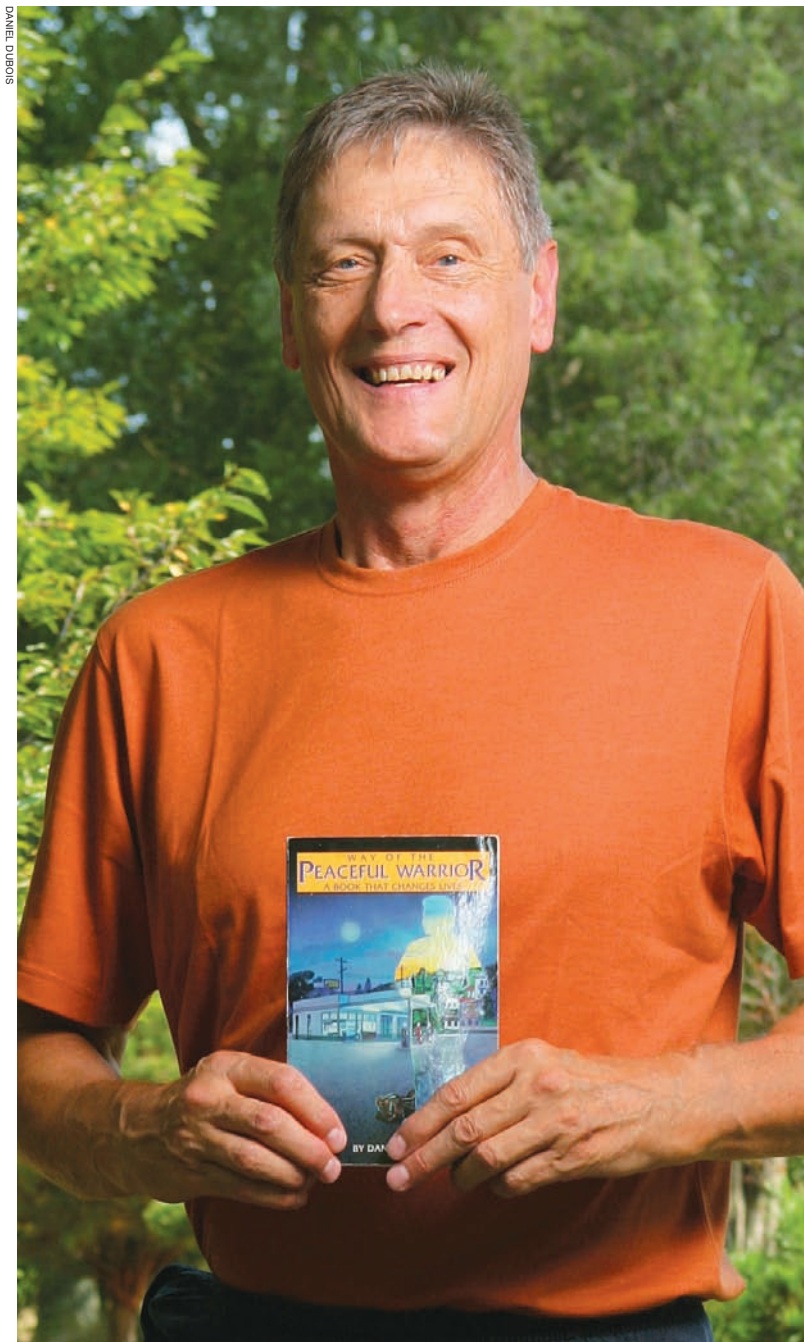
“When I became a professional basketball player, everybody there was an All-American or an all-something or another,” says Lee. “I found I had to start using a lot of visualization and meditation (to compete successfully).”

Lee had already retired from professional basketball when he discovered a kindred spirit in author Dan Millman and his book,

*Way of the Peaceful Warrior*. Millman says his book is fiction but is based closely on his own experiences. In the 1960s Millman was a world class gymnast at the University of California-Berkeley who wanted to become an even better athlete.

In the book Millman relates how he stumbled on a 94-year-old mentor nicknamed Socrates, a powerful, unpredictable, and elusive character who worked in a filling station. He taught a way to maximize performance using a unique blend of Eastern philosophy and Western fitness to cultivate the true essence of a champion—the “way of the peaceful warrior”.

Lee has recommended the book to teenagers attending such events as church retreats and YMCA camps. “One of the great things about this book is that it puts into perspective how you have to be focused to really achieve athletic greatness and sometimes you’ve got to let some things out of your life—like maybe beer, pizza and staying out late—and really, really focus on what you want to do.”



Former Vanderbilt All-American basketball player Clyde Lee holds a copy of *Way of the Peaceful Warrior* while doing yoga at Cheekwood’s Japanese Garden.

Associate Provost Lucius Outlaw Jr. found the book that most influenced his life in a Boston bookstore.

Frequently Lee mentions the book in the various yoga classes he teaches. “Yoga originated some 5,000 years ago in an effort to unite mind, body, and spirit so that man could become whole and united,” he says. “Millman’s book does incorporate that into it—it is a spiritual journey. It affects the spiritual self and the physical self. There is some Eastern philosophy in it. I happen to like Eastern philosophy a great deal—meditation and that kind of thing.”

For the past four or five years Lee has been teaching yoga to several of the athletic teams at Vanderbilt. He has worked with every team except basketball and football.

“It might be one semester I spend with this team, another semester I work with another team,” he says. “This past year, for instance, I worked with the baseball pitchers and with the bowling team.” (He modestly fails to mention that the women’s bowling team won Vanderbilt’s first ever national championship and the SEC champion baseball team featured pitchers David Price, the number one choice in the Major League draft, and Casey Weathers, the eighth player taken.)

“More and more coaches are beginning to use things like yoga, meditation, and visualization to help their players,” Lee says. “As a matter of fact, many pro athletes hire individual yoga teachers or meditation trainers to help them. Athletes want to find that extra edge. That’s where *Way of the Peaceful Warrior* is involved. That extra edge gets beyond just the physical talents. It gets into the mental and spiritual preparation.”

## Lucius Outlaw, Jr.

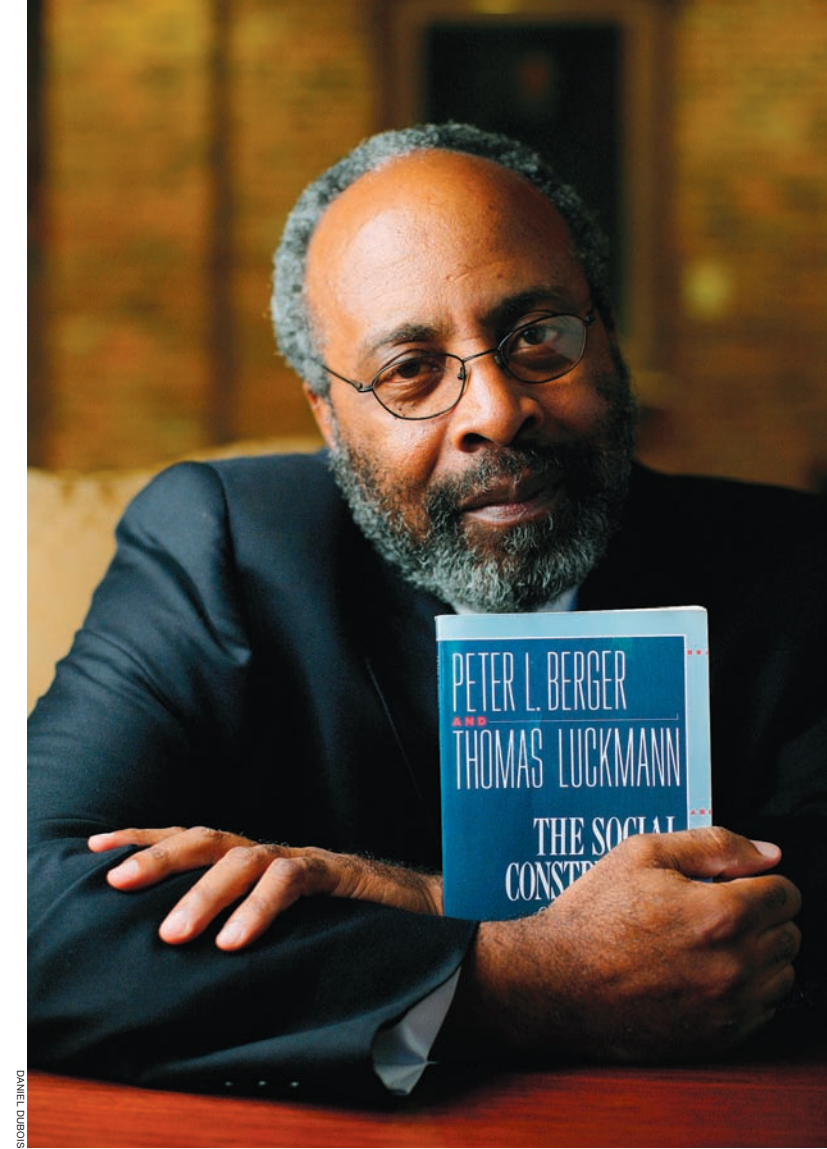
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education;  
Professor of Philosophy

Book That Matters: *The Social Construction of Reality: A Treatise in the Sociology of Knowledge*  
by Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann

Vanderbilt Associate Provost Lucius Outlaw Jr. found the book that matters most in his life in a very happenstance way. He was browsing through a bookstore in Boston during his days as a philosophy graduate student when he chanced upon the book, *The Social Construction of Reality*.

Outlaw had never heard of the book. He simply came upon it and was seized by its message. He has wondered now and then about what might have happened if the book had been tucked away on some obscure lower bookshelf and he had never noticed it.

One of the book’s major insights is that the reality an individual believes he or she knows has really come about in some important ways. “Another way of putting it is that the world that we know is the world that we have constructed for our-



selves,” Outlaw says. “It isn’t that there is just a world out there and somehow it imposes itself on us and makes us know it in the way in which it is. It’s a much more creative process in which we sort of construct what it is we know.

“It may vary from one person to another depending on the social order and the places where people are in the social order,” Outlaw continues. “As we can see with what is going on in Iraq and other countries, people can have pretty divergent views about what’s real, what’s known, what’s right and those differences can lead to very substantial conflict.”

Outlaw says that the book does not offer suggestions or solutions, but that anyone persuaded by the account of the authors would have to conclude that individuals don’t have some absolute claim on what they believe to be right. It’s a claim. Other people can have different claims.

“This book has become a foundational text for me and it was a foundational text for my dissertation,” says Outlaw. “I refer to it a lot in my classes. I particularly recommend it to graduate students. I used it in a seminar I taught last spring. We spent a month or two reading and discussing the book fairly closely.”

And to think it might never have come about had he not seen the volume in that Boston bookstore many years ago.

## Cecelia Tichi

William R. Kenan Professor of English;  
John W. Kluge Chair in Modern Culture  
at the Library of Congress.

Book That Matters: *Enrique's Journey*  
by Sonia Nazario

Vanderbilt Professor of English Cecelia Tichi says the book, *Enrique's Journey*, is one of the most heart-wrenching she has ever read.

Most Americans think that the 12 or 13 million non-citizens in the U.S.—whether one calls them illegal aliens or undocumented workers—are men who make their way into the U.S. to get work, possibly start a new life and send some money back home.

“What this book makes clear is the extent to which mothers are in this group,” Tichi says. “Women who have children in Central America or Mexico find that they literally believe they cannot feed these children. It tears their heart and soul, but they leave these children in the care of relatives and join this trek north.”

DANIEL DUBOIS

“They clean houses, bus tables, and hope to return with money to start a new life, but what happens is the years start to roll by and they remain here, sending back gifts and money,” Tichi continues. “The children are longing for their mother and they talk on the phone and idealize this parent who has gone, but they’re also deep-down quite angry, feeling deserted. The mothers, at the same time, are feeling that they’ve made this horrific sacrifice. With the help of a translator I was able to talk to one such mother, and she said to me, ‘I have a 15-year-old daughter I haven’t seen in years. I dream about her every night.’”

*Enrique's Journey* is about a boy's decision to travel north, cross the border and find his mother. Many children do the same thing, risking their lives by boarding “death trains.”

“The children are sometimes maimed or killed in railroad accidents along the way,” Tichi says. “They’re jumping on and off trains, needing to get food or water. They are robbed, beaten, the girls are raped, and the book documents these harrowing incidents.”

Even when the journey is successful and the child locates the mother, the reunion is seldom a happy one, as Enrique finds out. All the separation and the emotional toll these estrangements have taken affect both the children and mothers.

“The author does not idealize Enrique,” says Tichi, the author of six scholarly books and five detective novels. “There is a period when he’s sniffing glue. He turns into a street kid himself. By now he is well into his teenage years and this cycle is about to repeat itself. The author doesn’t take sides except to show the human dimensions of the situation.”

Tichi placed the book on a reading list for one of her classes. “I gave them a choice of essay topics and one young woman wrote that she had always regarded the dark-skinned immigrants who were working in landscaping and cleaning houses in her Dallas-area neighborhood as essentially less than human. Now, as a result of reading this book, her whole outlook has changed about the immigrants among us.”

## Frank Wcislo

Dean of The Commons,  
Associate Professor of History

Book That Matters: *The American Political Tradition:  
and the Men Who Made It*  
by Richard Hofstadter

During the summer of his junior year in high school, Vanderbilt Dean Frank Wcislo encountered a book that would impact his choice of profession, and hence his life. The book, *The American Political Tradition: and the Men Who Made It*, was written by Richard Hofstadter, a famous Columbia University historian.

*Professor Cecelia Tichi holds a copy of Enrique's Journey  
on the porch of historic Benson Hall on the Vanderbilt campus.*

*Frank Wcislo is dean of The Commons, a new campus for  
first-year students and residential faculty at Vanderbilt.*

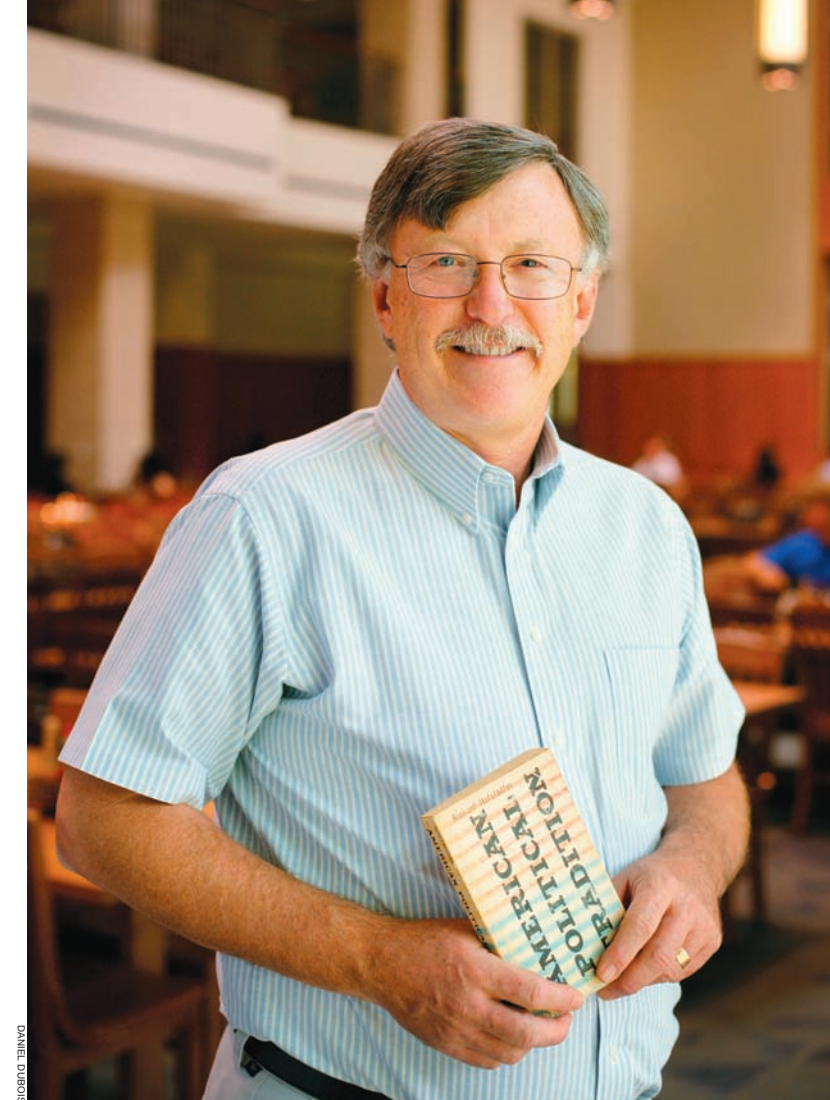
“As a kid I was in the Landmark Book Club and read history books—just devoured them—and so I knew a lot of history,” Wcislo recalls. “I was one of those boys who liked to read about the Civil War and to hear about Guadalcanal and all of that. I loved American history but never really had encountered it as a set of interpretive problems.”

Wcislo was strongly influenced by his high school history teacher in Arlington Heights, Ill., who recognized that this young student was excited about the things he was learning. Included in the class, of course, was the Hofstadter book.

“I read *The American Political Tradition* as a high school junior in a summer AP American history course,” he recalls. “That would have been in the summer of 1968. Looking back on it now as a professional historian—I certainly wouldn’t have known it then—that was my first introduction to professional history that was big and sweeping in terms of the problems it addressed and in terms of the interpretive answers it attempted to offer.”

Having been raised in the “land of Lincoln,” he particularly enjoyed a chapter about the former president. Wcislo discovered a new take on Lincoln in the book. “It was a compelling portrait of a very conflicted individual,” he says.

The personable Wcislo is in the process of making history of a different sort. He is dean of The Commons, a new campus for first-year students and residential faculty at Vanderbilt.



DANIEL DUBOIS

## LITERACY, *continued from page 3*

mation Literacy and is chaired by Melinda Brown, instruction coordinator in the Central Library. Members of the Committee bring together staff from each of the libraries (Central, Music, Peabody, Science and Engineering) affiliated with the undergraduate schools. Other members represent the Center for Teaching, the College of Arts and Science, and the Writing Studio.

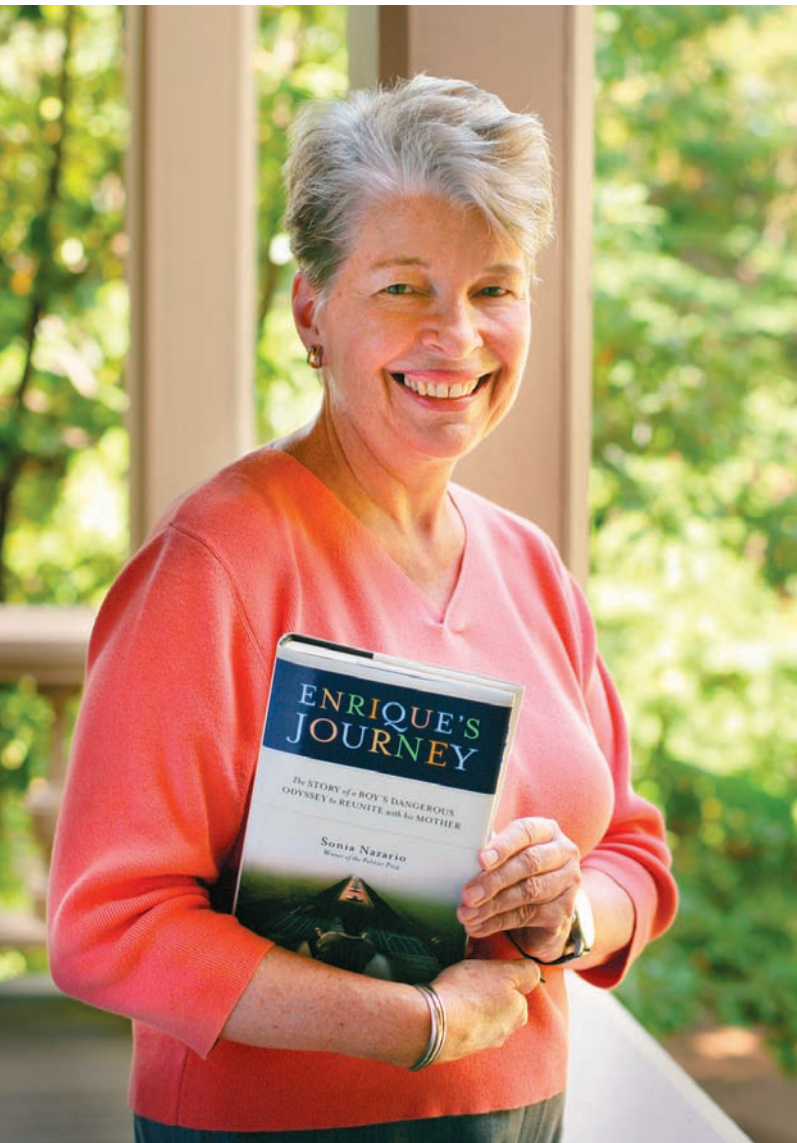
This set of academic support functions forms the beginnings of the Center for Academic Life, a concept articulated by University Librarian Paul Gherman, and is one of five major goals in the Library's strategic plan. CUIL also advances another of the five goals—that of participating in the development of a cross college information competencies instruction program.

This fall, CUIL and the Library were asked to present one of the weekly sessions of the Vanderbilt Visions program with a focus on intellectual engagement at Vanderbilt. The Visions program promotes discussion and experiences that explore the

challenges and opportunities all Vanderbilt first-year students encounter as they advance from high school to college. Each Visions group watched a short video created by the CUIL Committee that shows undergraduates, graduate students and faculty talking about research strategies. Led by a librarian, the groups explored how research in college differs from research in high school by discussing the services and resources available in the university library system.

The goal for the program was to address the question: “Google it or research it through the library?” CUIL also developed two additional course modules—Intellectual Property and Popular versus Scholarly—that can be used by individual Vanderbilt Visions groups during the academic year. Other modules are anticipated for the future.

The CUIL collaboration has moved along extremely effectively. A real benefit in being included in the Vanderbilt Visions program is that it is a required course for all freshmen. Exposure to the Library in this initial way will ensure that librarians can assume a basic level of knowledge that will not have to be repeated in later instructional efforts.



# Sam Fleming: *Yours to Count On*

BY LEW HARRIS

Former Vanderbilt Board of Trust Chairman Samuel M. Fleming Jr. began his business career at age eight, running errands, packaging pennies and sweeping floors at the Harpeth National Bank in his hometown of Franklin, Tenn., for 50 cents a day. From this modest beginning, the future Vanderbilt graduate, BA'28, would grow into one of the great banking, financial and philanthropical leaders of Nashville and the nation. He was personally acquainted with a number of U.S. presidents and was particularly close to President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

All this and much more is revealed in *Yours to Count On*, a recently-released biography of Fleming written by noted author Ridley Wills II, BA'56. He wrote the book at the request of Fleming's daughter, Joanne Fleming Hayes, BA'68, and grandson, Fleming Wilt, BS'91.

Wills, who lived next door to Sam Fleming for 23 years, had unlimited research access to his correspondence and papers at Boxwood, Sam's longtime residence. Fleming's papers are now housed in the Special Collections of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library.

The author says that Fleming's drive to excel was instilled by his mother during his childhood. "She would say, 'Sam, see that man over there on Main Street. He has not lived up to his expectations. He could have done more. I want you to do more.'" Wills adds, "Sam had a lot of drive and ability and a lot of charm."

Wills notes that when Fleming graduated from Vanderbilt, he said, "I took with me something of infinitely more importance [than an A average]...a desire, almost a demon desire, to rise above mediocrity...above the average...to reach out for excellence and to assume a leadership role in life."

Fleming spent virtually all of his working life at Third National Bank in Nashville, the last 23 years as chairman and CEO. He assumed the presidency of the American Bankers Association in 1961, headed a \$55 million capital campaign for Vanderbilt in 1966, received the national Horatio Alger Award in 1970, and

was elected chairman of the Vanderbilt Board of Trust in 1975.

He had been invited to join the Augusta National Golf Club in 1947 in the same entering "class" as Five-Star General and future President Eisenhower. Fleming and fellow Nashville friends Orrin Henry "Hank" Ingram and Eldon Stevenson later built the Tennessee House next door to the "Eisenhower cabin" at Augusta National and Sam often golfed and played bridge with Ike.

"When I began researching the book, I didn't realize the impact that Augusta National had on Sam and indirectly on Vanderbilt," Wills says. "Sam would meet national figures down there and become on a first-name basis with them. The first thing you knew Clifton C. Garvin, the CEO of Exxon Corporation, was on the Vanderbilt Board of Trust as a direct result of his friendship with Sam Fleming. Augusta National gave Sam a national stage."

While Fleming gave generously in both time and money to his high school alma mater of Battle Ground Academy, his church and countless other community and civic charities, his first love was always Vanderbilt.

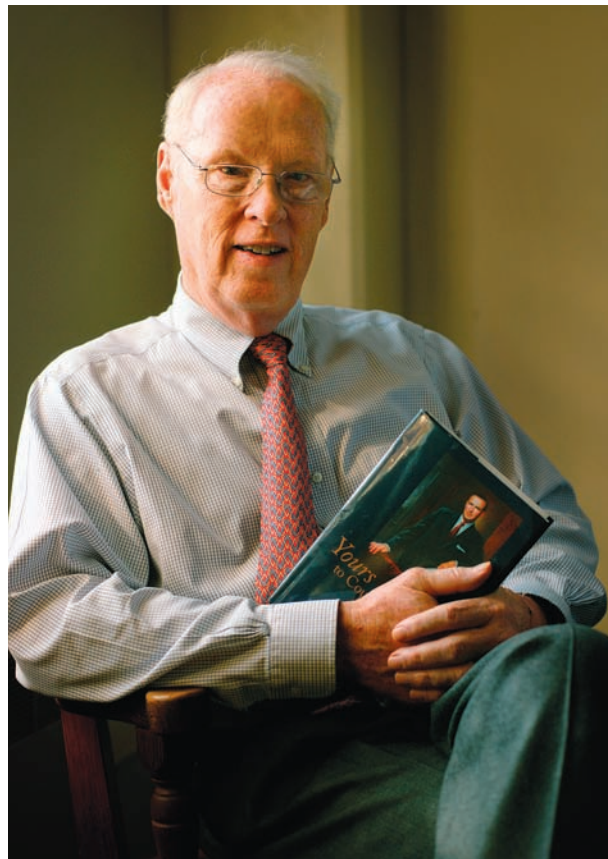
"Sam was unquestionably a great Board of Trust chairman and he traveled all over the country to help Vanderbilt raise money," says Wills, author of nine books. "He was the lead figure. His hand touched a lot of areas."

Wills mentions the critical role Fleming played in the Vanderbilt-Peabody merger, the rebuilding of Vanderbilt Stadium, and raising funds

for the creation of the Owen Graduate School of Management.

In 1985 he gifted the library with the Sam Fleming Illuminated Medieval Manuscript and Early Printing Collection. In his will he left funding to endow the Southern Civilization Book Collection, which was appropriately renamed the Sam Fleming Southern Civilization Book Collection after his death in January of 2000.

Wills says he is often asked what Fleming's greatest contribution was. "I think Sam's greatest legacy is what he did for Vanderbilt," he concludes.



Ridley Wills II

DANIEL DUBOIS



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