

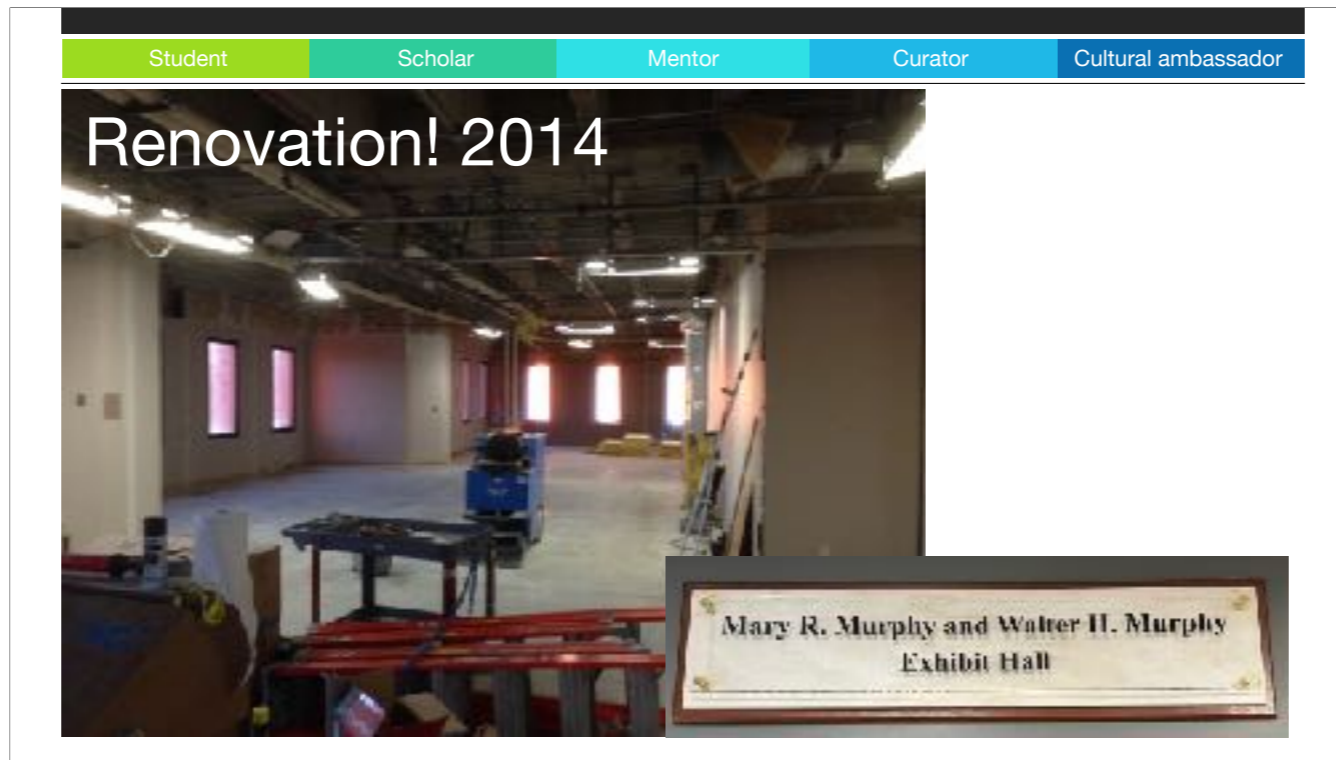
Marilyn B. Ogilvie

Curator
History of Science Collections
1991-2008

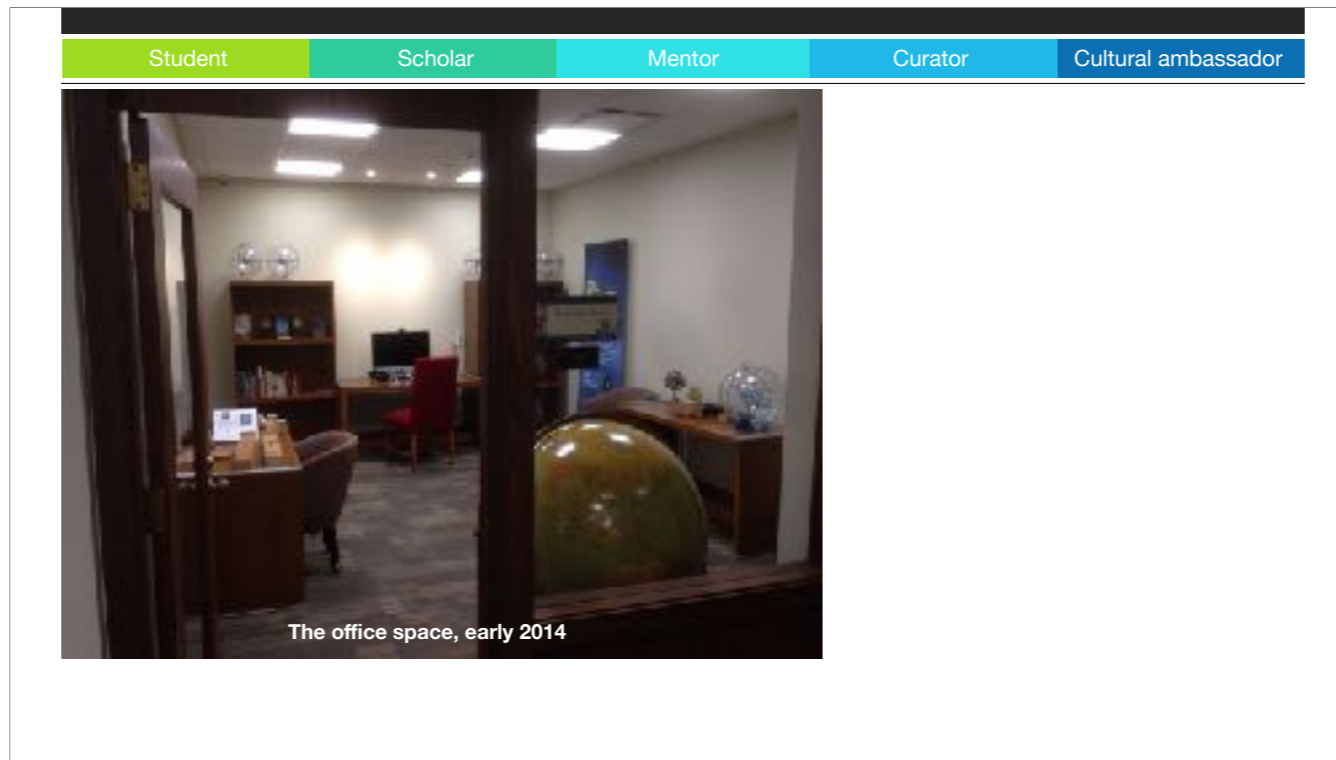


Everyone, welcome.

Marilyn, we are so delighted you are here.



Back in 2014, the public side of the 5th floor was renovated. We are now gathered in an instructional space, the Mary R. Murphy and Walter H. Murphy Hall, where we host class visits using the rare books in instruction.



During the renovation we began thinking about how to make better use of an office space lying just off of Murphy Hall.

- Our holdings of rare instruments were increasing, and the renovated office space seemed like just the ideal place for them. The Marilyn B. Ogilvie Room now holds antique instruments and artifacts.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



The office space, early 2014



Portrait by Mike Wimmer



The Ogilvie Room is adorned by a portrait of Marilyn painted by noted Oklahoma artist Mike Wimmer. We will open the room and unveil the portrait in just a few minutes.

- But no painter could ever capture the fierce bright sparkle of Marilyn's eyes! Her eyes are too bright and too lively to be believable unless you meet her in person. // Why did the University Libraries decide to honor Marilyn with this room and to commission this portrait?

Portrait by Mike Wimmer





We scarcely have time to mention all sorts of interesting stories about Marilyn, for instance, that she lived in Africa and China, and has spent time on every continent, Antarctica included —

- but I'll confine myself today to just these categories noted along the top of the slide. We recognize Marilyn as a student, scholar, mentor, curator, and cultural ambassador.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Student

Scholar

Mentor

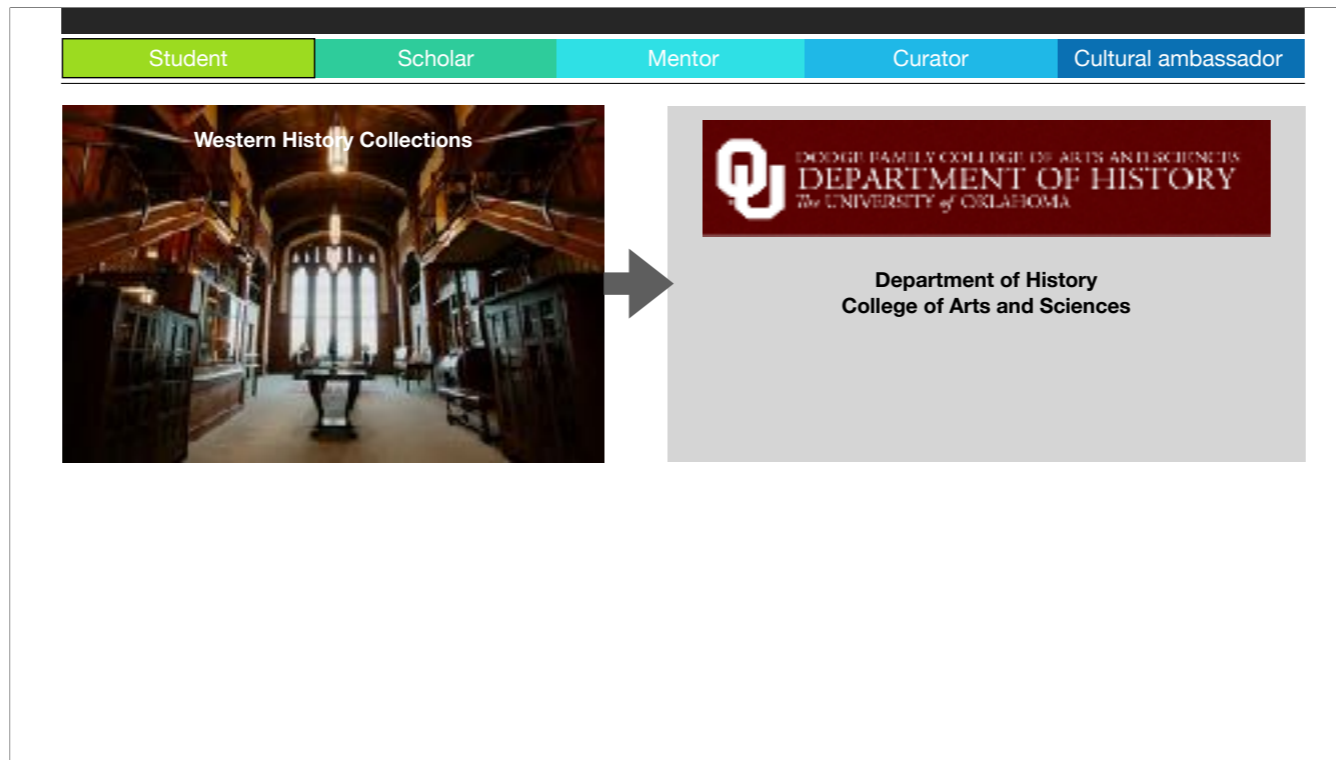
Curator

Cultural ambassador

Student



First, Marilyn was a student here at OU.



All University Libraries special research collections welcome researchers regardless of whether they are affiliated with the University or not. So while we are fully committed to serving all comers, nevertheless, OU students benefit when a Special Collection enjoys a strong relationship with an academic department. For example, one way the Western History Collections serves the University

- is the Jack Haley Fellowship which they offer to support research by graduate students in the Department of History.



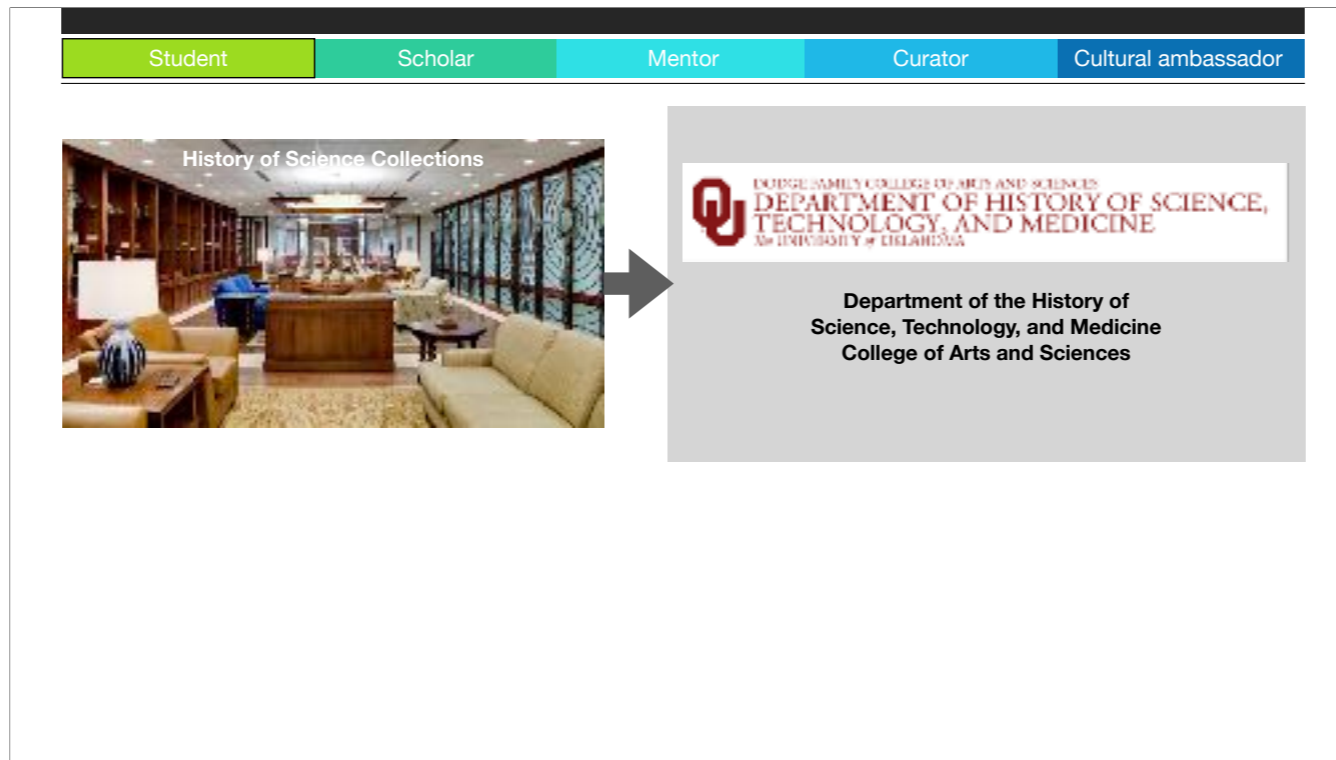
Western History Collections



Department of History
College of Arts and Sciences



Jack Haley Fellowship
for Graduate Students in the History Department



Similarly, the History of Science Collections enjoys a strong relationship with the Department of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine. Just as very few universities have a History of Science Collections, very few universities have a History of Science Department. When we speak of the OU history of science program, we refer to this combination of the Collections and the Department working together to create a distinctive program for the University of Oklahoma. Marilyn first encountered the History of Science Collections as a graduate student in the Department.



Here's a blurry screenshot from an old video recorded in the History of Science Collections back when Marilyn was a graduate student. At this time the Collections were located on the third floor of the library's 1959 addition, before it was relocated to this wing of the library, which was built in 1982.

Student

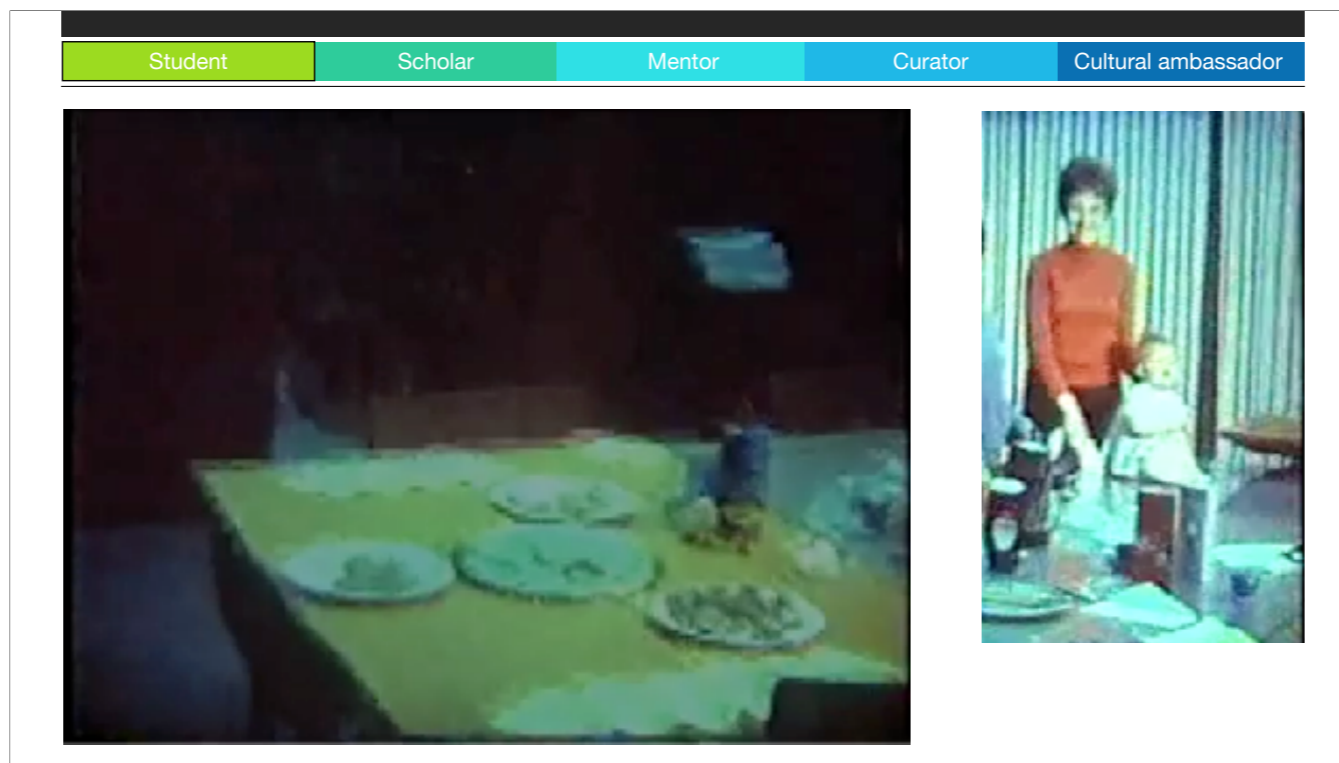
Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador





As we watch a few moments of this gathering in the History of Science Collections, please call out names of anyone you recognize.

Student

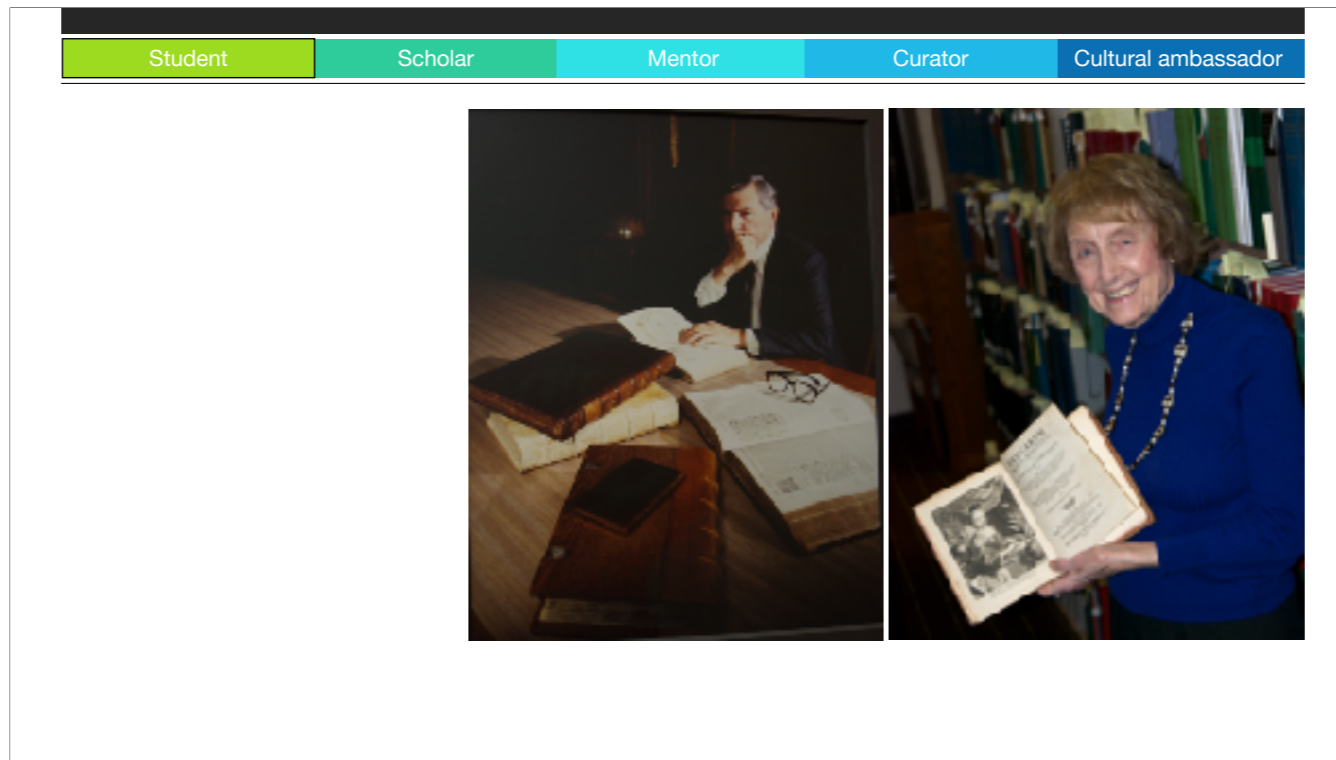
Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador





Marilyn studied with Duane H. D. Roller, the first curator and professor of the History of Science at OU.

- If you haven't seen it yet, I encourage you to get a copy of the latest Sooner Magazine, which was just mailed out last week.
- It includes a wonderful article about Roller written by Kenneth L. Taylor. Ken is here with us today.
- There's a copy you can browse in the Roller Reading Room, on Duane's desk, just beneath Roller's portrait. And I'm so delighted to say that Duane W. Roller, Roller's son, is here with us today: thank you, Chip, for driving all the way to Oklahoma for this event.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

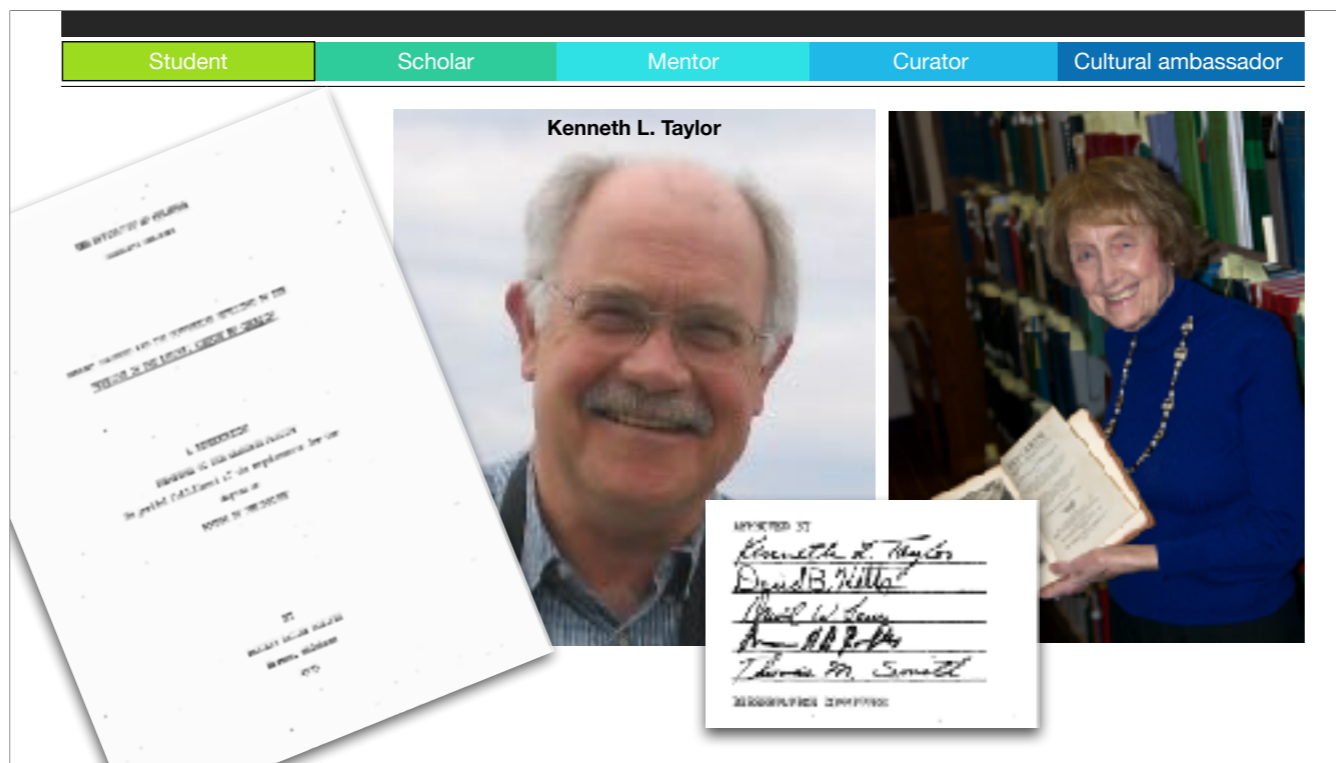
Curator

Cultural ambassador









In 1973, Marilyn completed her PhD with a dissertation on Robert Chambers, supervised by Ken.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

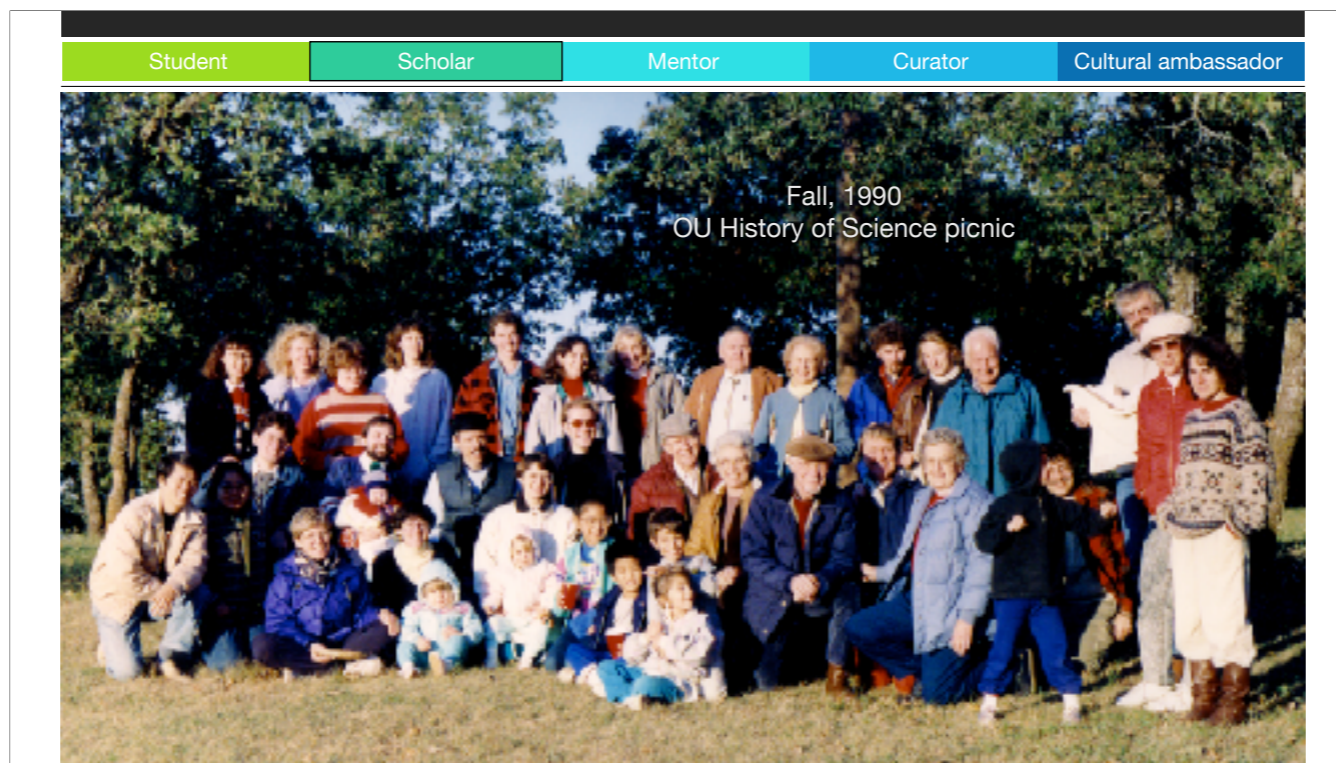
Curator

Cultural ambassador

Scholar



After graduation, Marilyn began a long career in the history of science and remained closely involved with the OU history of science program. I met Marilyn in 1987, in the Collections, during my first year of graduate study. She then reserved every Thursday for on-site research in the Collections. The Collections was a lively meeting place for a community of scholars.



At this picnic gathering, Marilyn is in the back row, next to Duane Roller. Ken Taylor took the photo.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

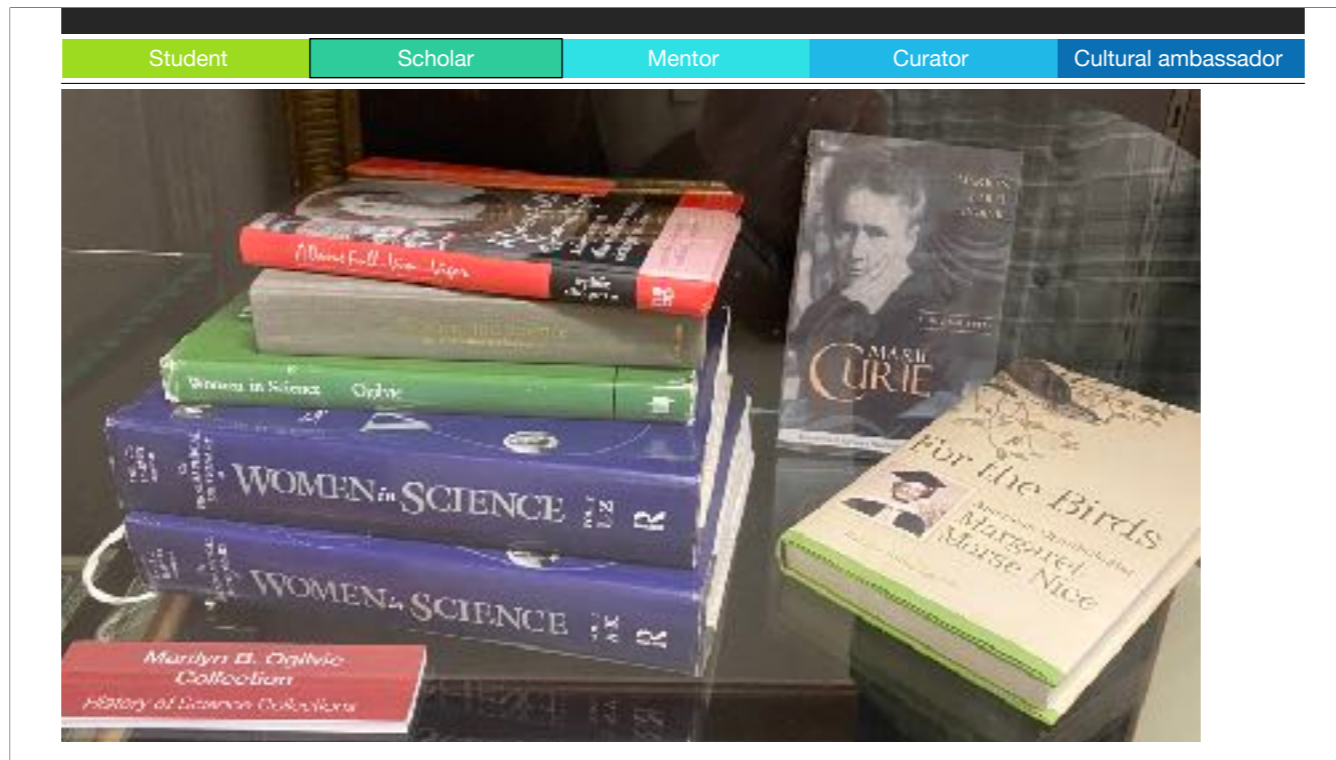
Cultural ambassador

Fall, 1990
OU History of Science picnic





At this conference in 1990, Marilyn is in the center of the front row. Little did we then know that the following year she would become Curator of the Collections, a position she held until her retirement in December 2008.



Marilyn devoted her energy to promoting the history of women and science at a time when almost no one was giving that topic any attention.

- From *Women in Science: Antiquity through the Nineteenth Century* (MIT Press, 1987) through
- the two-volume *Biographical Dictionary of Women in Science* (Routledge, 2000), along with numerous other publications, Marilyn's groundbreaking scholarship inspired younger scholars around the world.
- In the portrait, you will observe that Mike Wimmer painted some of Marilyn's books on the shelf behind her.
- And today you can browse some of Marilyn's publications which we've set out in the Nook at the east end of the Foyer.

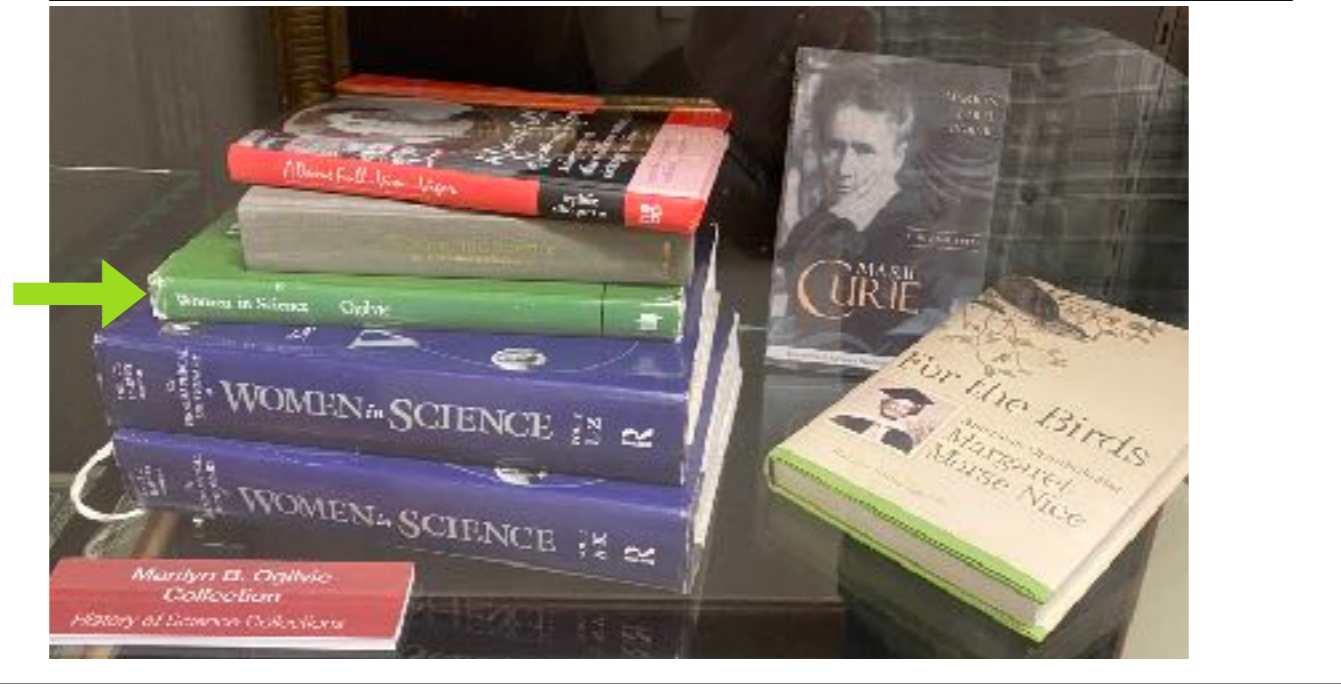
Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



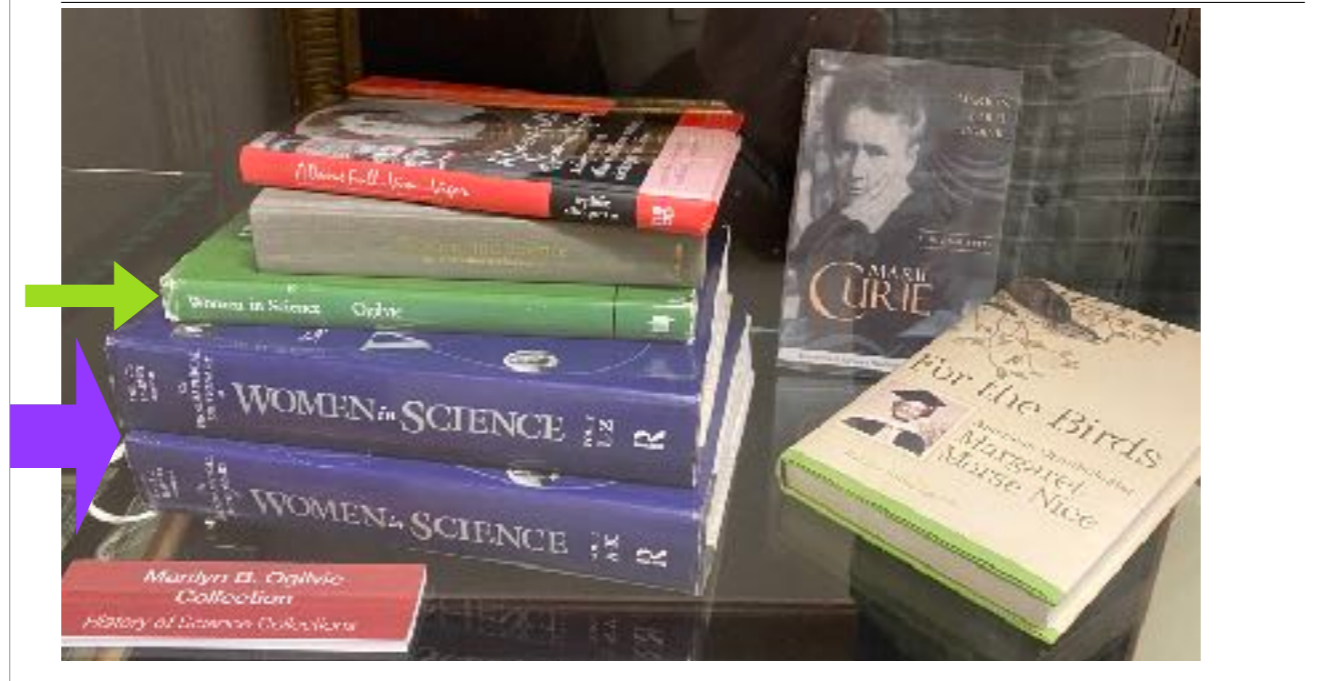
Student

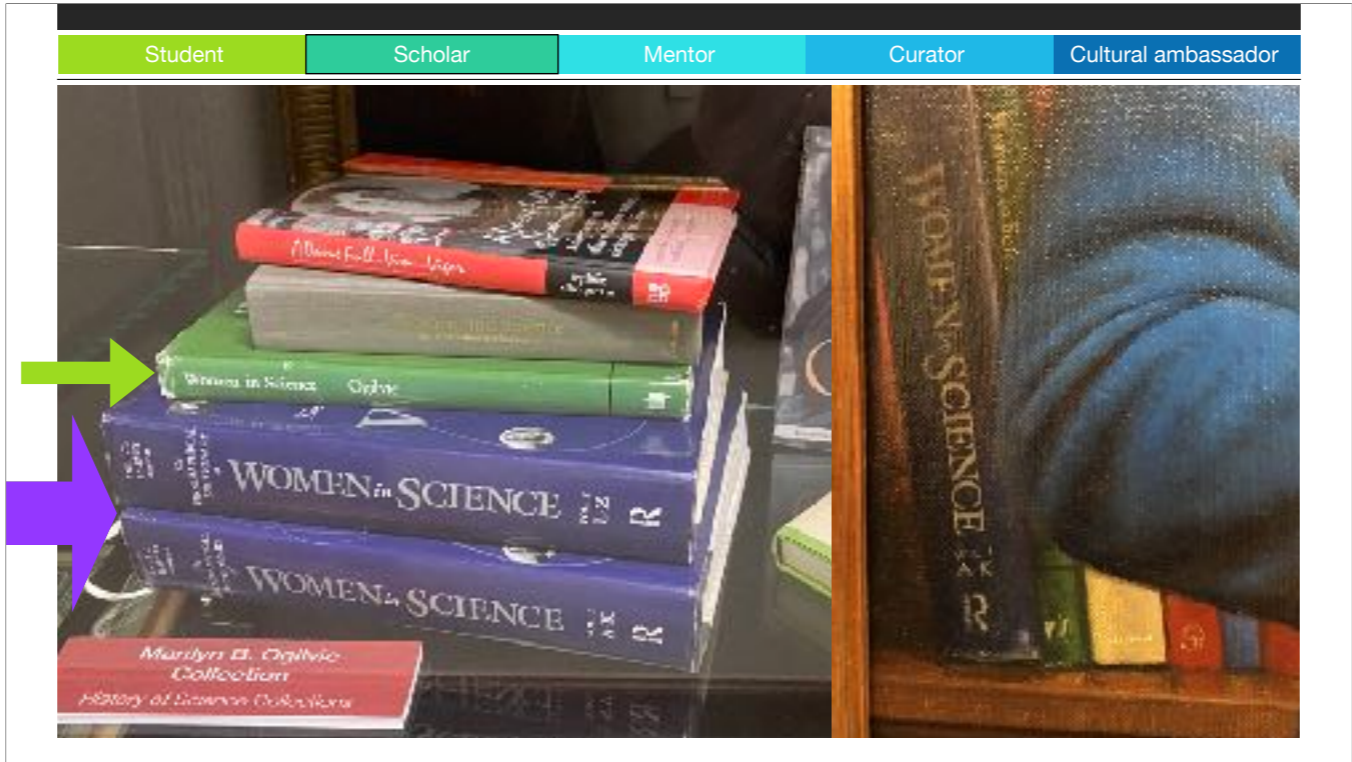
Scholar

Mentor

Curator


Cultural ambassador







Student	Scholar	Mentor	Curator	Cultural ambassador
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Mentor

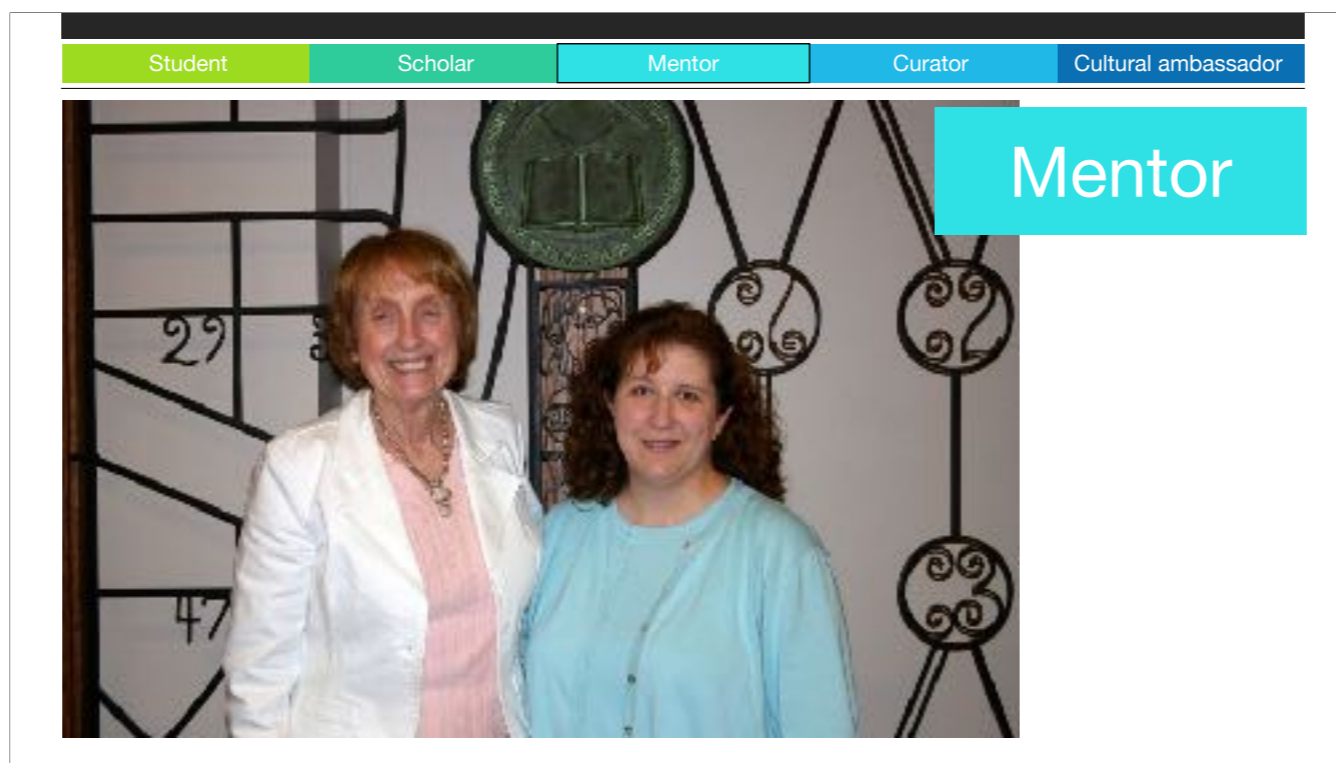
History of Science Society
2016 annual meeting
Washington, D.C.

In 2016, a special session was organized in Marilyn's honor at the annual meeting of the History of Science Society. Leading scholars of women in science gave tribute to Marilyn's mentorship before a standing-room-only crowd.

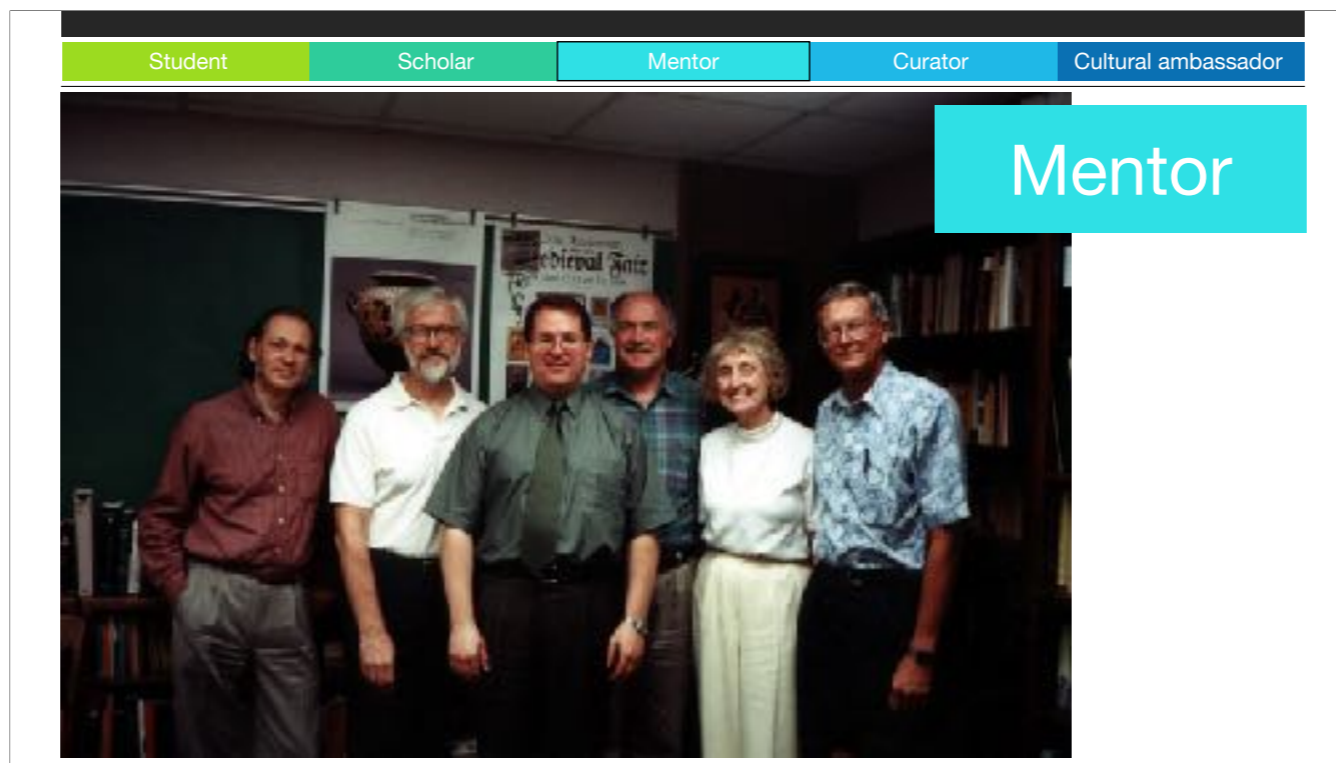


Mentor

History of Science Society
2016 annual meeting
Washington, D.C.



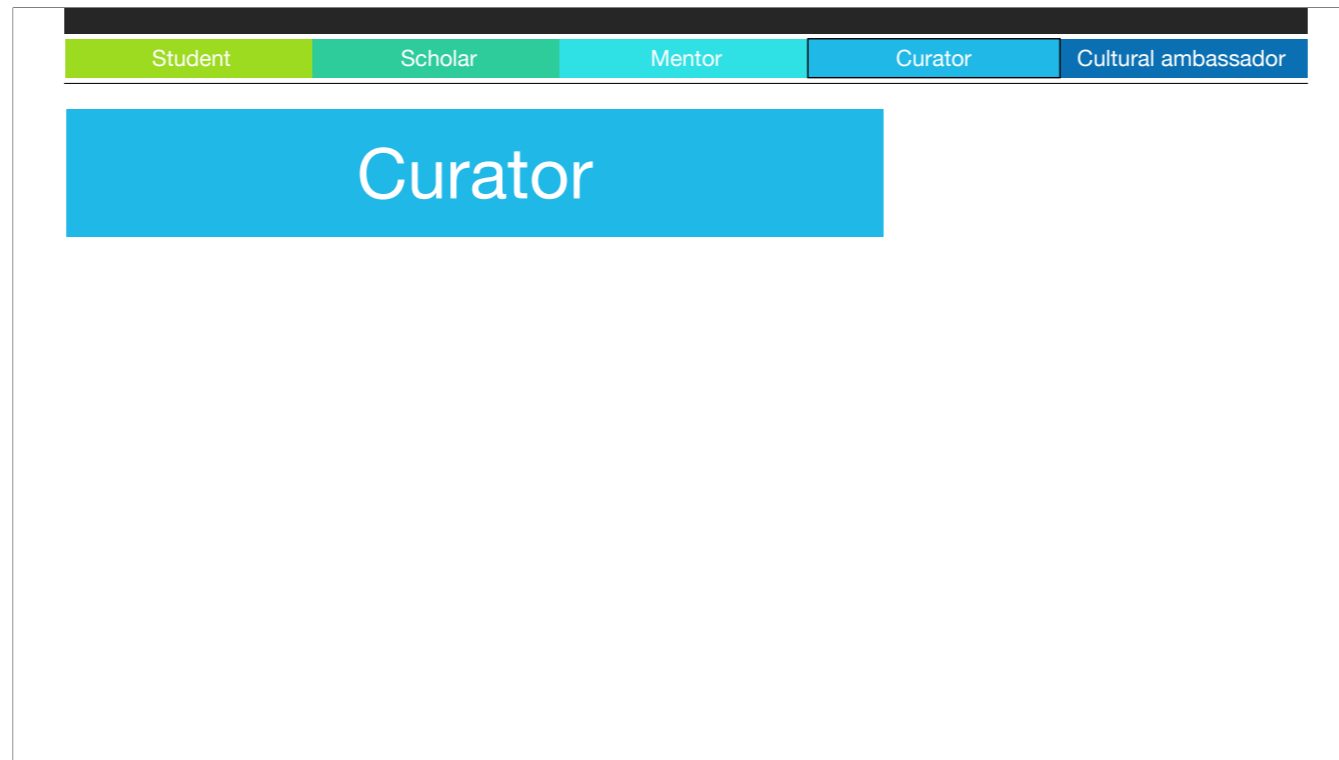
Here at OU, Marilyn served on numerous masters and doctoral committees. This photo is with Kim Perez on the occasion of her PhD defense, but photos with graduates taken in front of the decorative screen could be multiplied indefinitely. Most every graduate student I knew was profoundly impacted by Marilyn's mentorship.



Marilyn served on my own dissertation committee and then brought me on as her assistant in the Collections.



Marilyn supported the theses and dissertations displayed in the windows of the Consultation Room.



- As the second Curator of the OU History of Science Collections, Marilyn inherited a great treasure of rare books. She was also one of the builders of the Collections.
- As Dean Stephens mentioned, the History of Science Collections was established in 1949 by the first donor, Everette Lee DeGolyer. To many it is still known as the DeGolyer Collection, but the name was changed to History of Science Collections (plural) with the acquisition of additional major gifts in the 1960's.
 - The first curator and professor of the history of science was Duane H.D. Roller, serving from 1954 to 1990. Here he is shown with longtime librarian Marcia Goodman. In 1976, they published a printed catalog of 40,000 books held by the Collections.
 - A copy is in the Reading Room if you want to take a look. Rare booksellers still advertise items in their catalogs by proudly announcing that they are “Not in Roller-Goodman,”
 - Yet by Roller's retirement the Collections held 79,000 volumes, nearly twice as many as listed in “Roller-Goodman,” and there are now more than 100,000 volumes in the Collections! The Collections is living, not closed, with major new acquisitions every year.
 - [Marilyn was curator from 1991-2008.] While a remarkable foundation was laid by the DeGolyer collection and the extraordinary acquisitions of the Roller era, thousands of significant acquisitions were acquired on Marilyn's watch.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Curator



EVERETTE LEE DeGOLYER
DONOR 1949-1956
6,000 VOLS

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Curator



EVERETTE LEE DeGOLYER
DONOR 1949-1956
6,000 VOLS



DUANE H.D. ROLLER
MARCIA GOODMAN
1976: 40,000 VOLS

Curator



EVERETTE LEE DeGOLYER
DONOR 1949-1956
6,000 VOLS



DUANE H.D. ROLLER
MARCIA GOODMAN
1976: 40,000 VOLS



Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Curator



EVERETTE LEE DeGOLYER
DONOR 1949-1956
6,000 VOLS



DUANE H.D. ROLLER
MARCIA GOODMAN
1976: 40,000 VOLS



DUANE H.D. ROLLER
CURATOR 1954-1990
79,000 VOLS

Curator



EVERETTE LEE DeGOLYER
DONOR 1949-1956
6,000 VOLS



DUANE H.D. ROLLER
MARCIA GOODMAN
1976: 40,000 VOLS



DUANE H.D. ROLLER
CURATOR 1954-1990
79,000 VOLS



MARILYN B. OGLVIE
CURATOR 1991-2008
94,000 VOLS
+15,000!



Women in science

Hildegard of Bingen,
Physica (1533)

As we would expect, Marilyn collected many works by and about women in science, including this book on plants and medicine by Hildegard of Bingen. Hildegard was a 12th century Abbess. In the Middle Ages, convents were places where anyone might seek free health care.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Women in science



Levinus Vincent,
Wondertooneel der Nature
(Amsterdam, 1706-1715)
"Wonder Chambers of Nature"

Levinus Vincent, a wealthy Dutch merchant, created a spectacular natural history museum in Haarlem.

- Although they were not admitted to the universities, women participated in museums as donors, curators, lecturers, collectors, discoverers, visitors and patrons.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Women in science



Levinus Vincent,
Wondertoonel der Nature
(Amsterdam, 1706-1715)
"Wonder Chambers of Nature"

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Women in science



Francesco Algarotti, *Il Newtonianismo per le dame* (Naples, 1737), with frontispiece depicting Madame du Châtelet

An entertaining dialogue by Francesco Algarotti spread Newtonian ideas across Europe.

- Madame du Châtelet translated Newton's masterwork of physics, the *Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy*, into French. The frontispiece shows Madame du Chatelet instructing her male companion in physics as they stroll through the garden.



Madame du Châtelet



Women in science

Francesco Algarotti,
Il Newtonianismo per le dame (Naples, 1737), with
frontispiece depicting
Madame du Châtelet

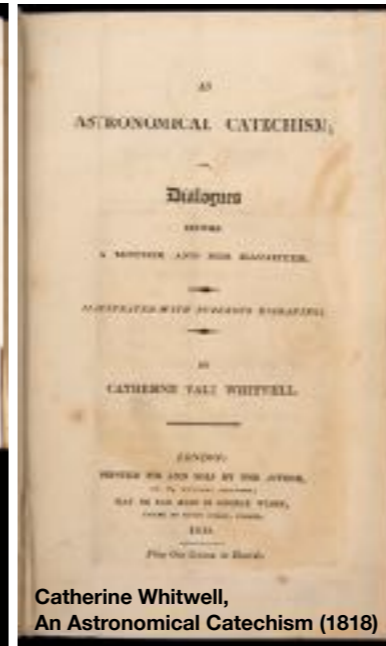
Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Catherine Whitwell,
An Astronomical Catechism (1818)

Here's a delightful introduction to astronomy, written as a dialogue between a mother and a daughter. The author, Catherine Whitwell, taught in an experimental school in Scotland in the 1820's, directed by Robert Owen. Owen later came to America and founded a colony in Indiana called New Harmony.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Urania's Mirror (London, 1825)

This is the first edition of Urania's Mirror, a box of 32 constellation cards published in 1825 by an anonymous lady. Holes punched in the positions of bright stars allow one to hold any card up to a light and compare the star pattern with the constellation figure. Urania's Mirror makes learning the constellations easy!



Urania's Mirror (London, 1825)

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Women in science



Hand-colored lithograph of William Buckland, lecture in geology, Oxford, 1823. Drawn by Nathaniel Whittock. Printed by Charles Joseph Hullmandel.

Where are the women in this scene? This hand-colored lithograph portrays a lecture on geology by William Buckland at Oxford in 1823. Too often women are invisible in the history of geology.

- Nevertheless, Mary Anning and other women geologists of the time have an invisible presence through the fossils and artifacts depicted, which they found, reconstructed, and interpreted, and shared with the male members of the Geological Society, including Buckland himself.

Student

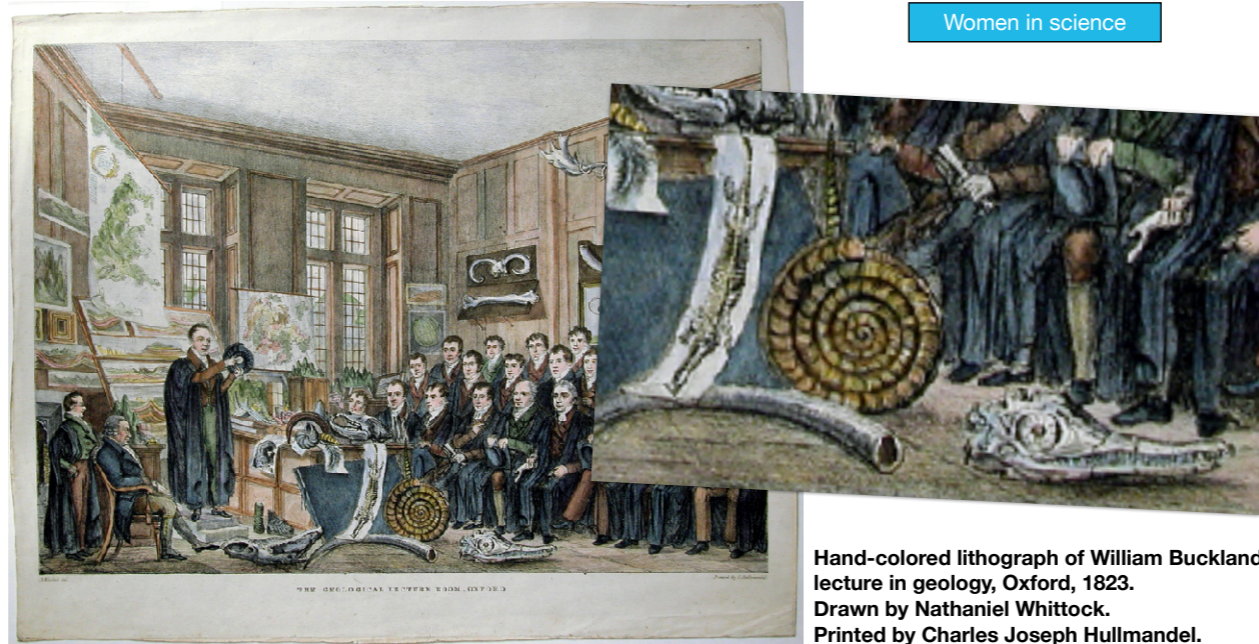
Scholar

Mentor

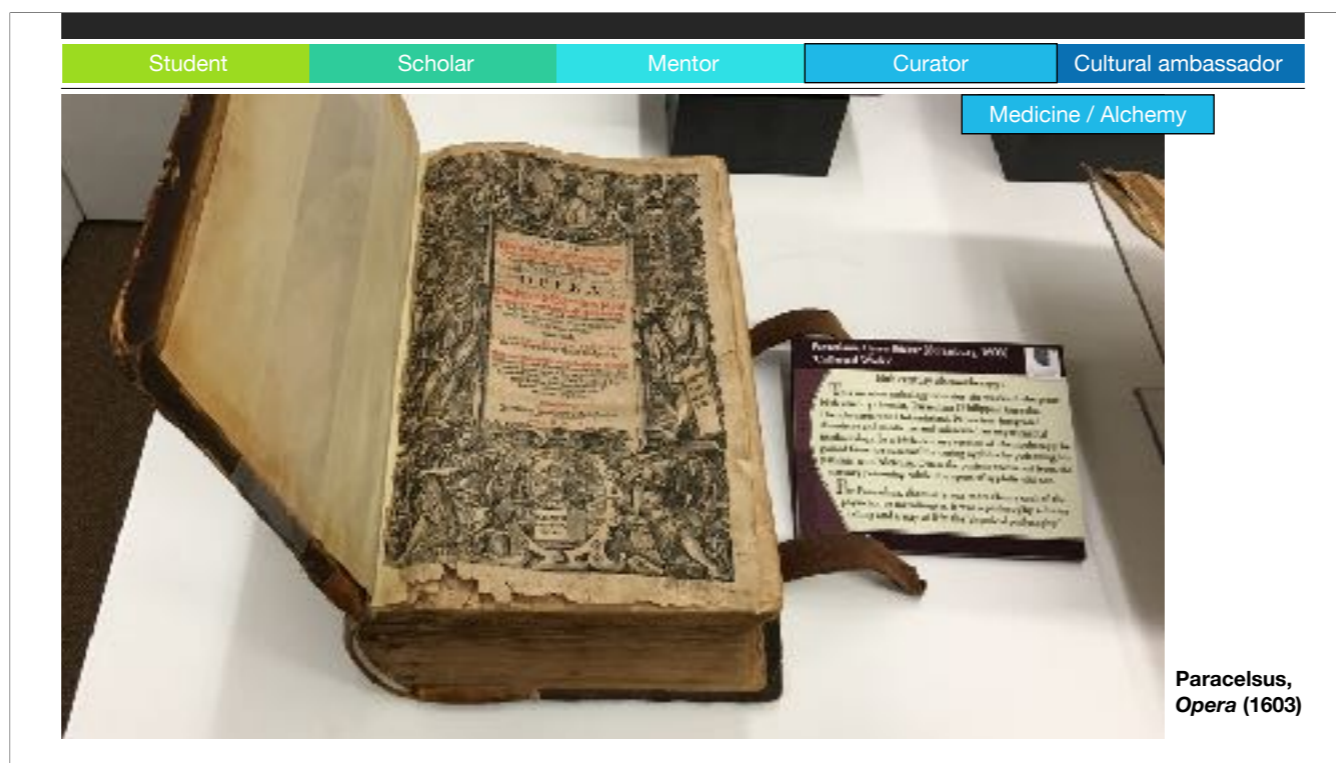
Curator

Cultural ambassador

Women in science



Hand-colored lithograph of William Buckland, lecture in geology, Oxford, 1823. Drawn by Nathaniel Whittock. Printed by Charles Joseph Hullmandel.



Consider medicine and alchemy, two subject areas Marilyn aggressively collected. Arguably the most important figure in 16th-century chemical medicine was Paracelsus. This is the first edition of his collected works. Driving home from a conference in Wisconsin, Marilyn stopped at a roadside cafe. The couple in the booth behind her were talking with each other about what to do with that old book Grandma had brought with her when she came over from the old country. Marilyn realized they were talking about the Opera of Paracelsus, so she turned to them and interjected, “I can help you with that!” Marilyn, remember that?

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Health sciences



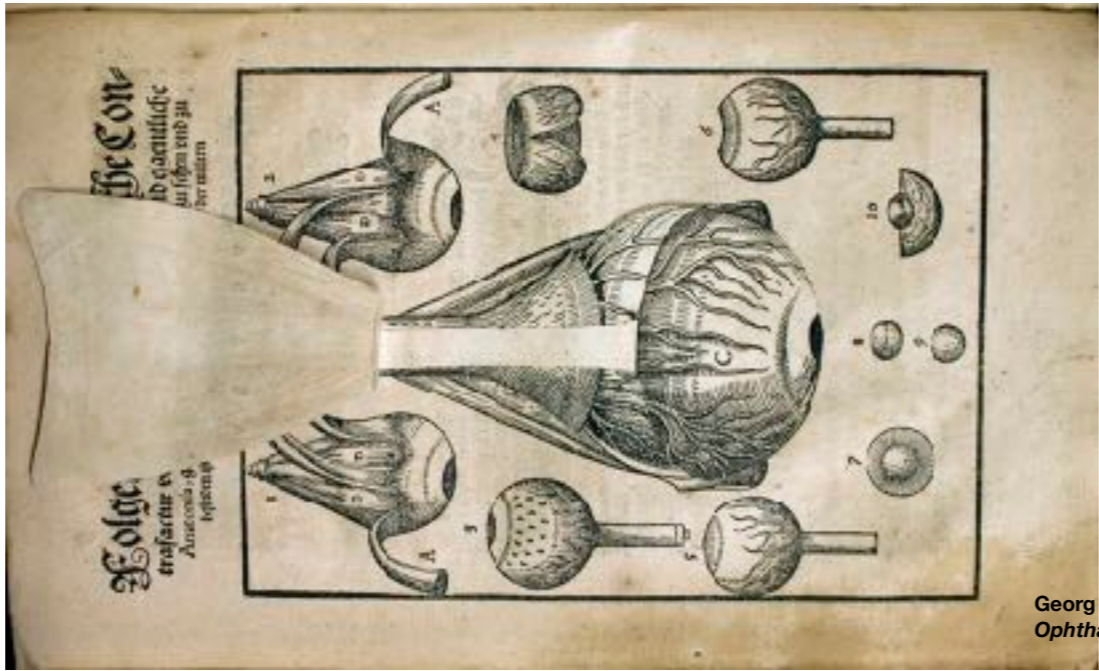
Georg Bartisch,
Ophthalmology (1583)

This book, written in German by the surgeon Georg Bartisch, is the first printed work devoted to the eye.

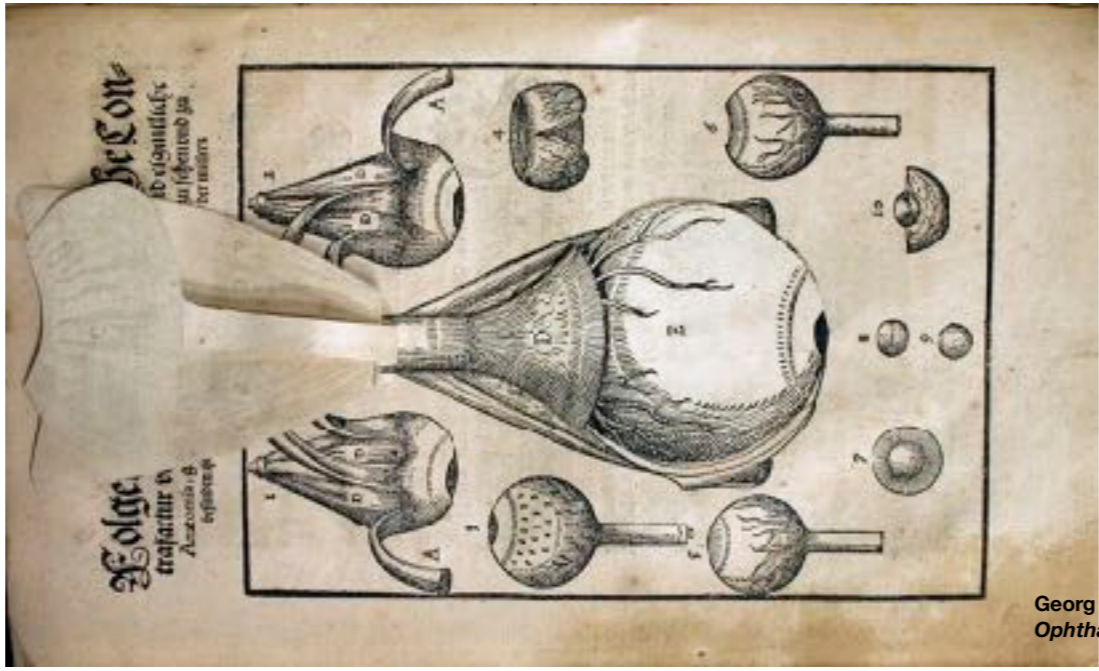


Georg Bartisch,
Ophthalmology (1583)

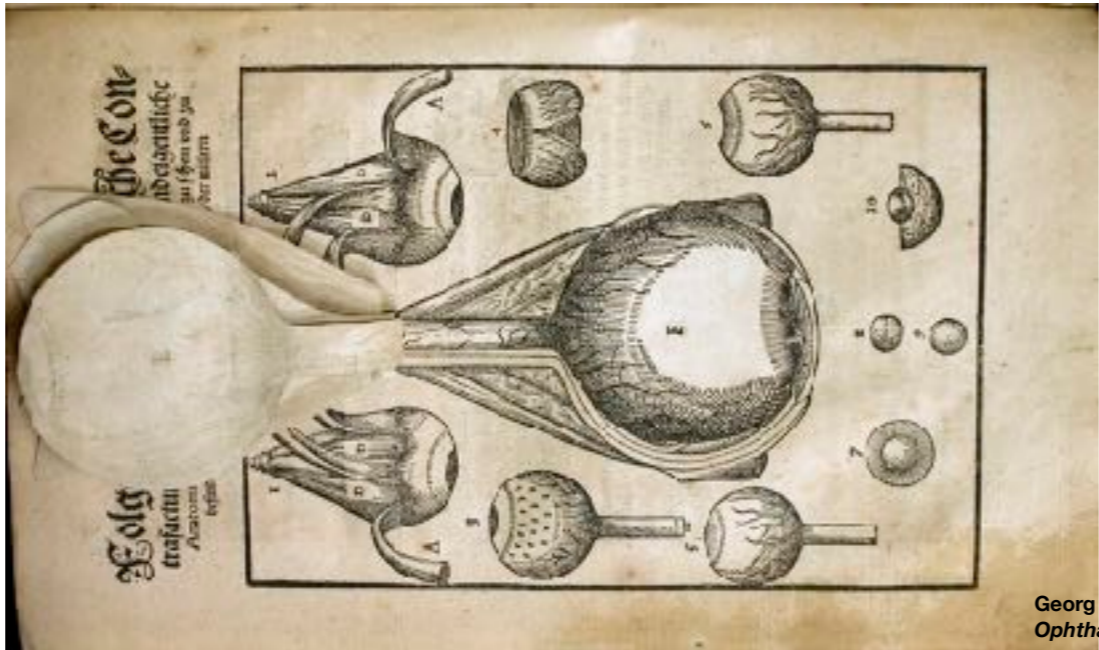
It covers the anatomy of the eye



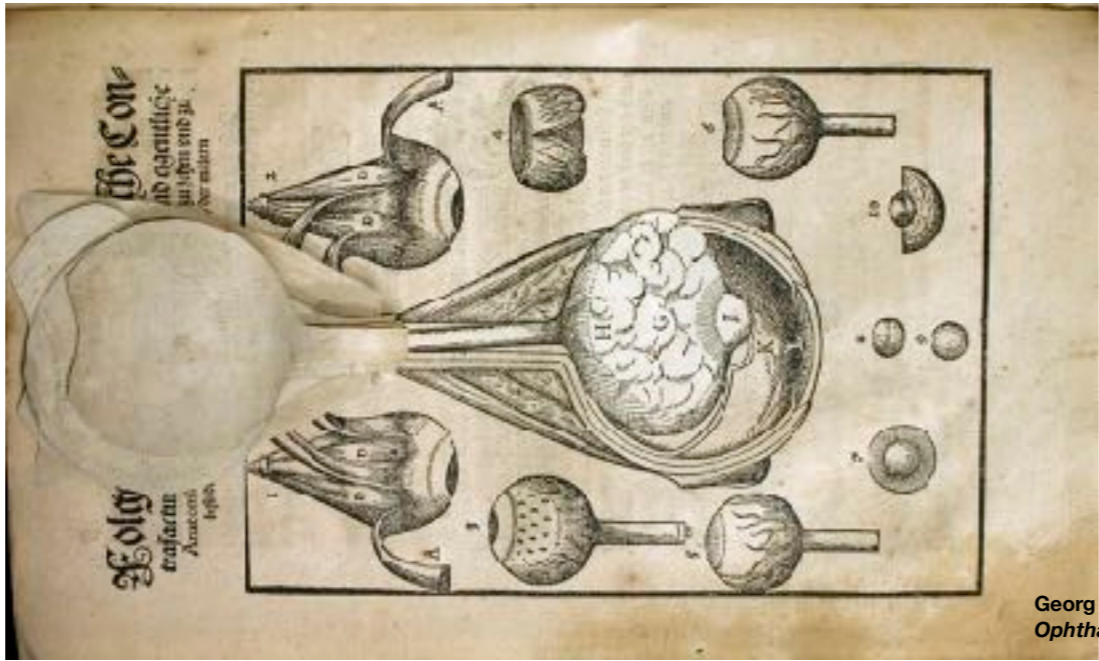
Georg Bartisch, Ophthalmology (1583)

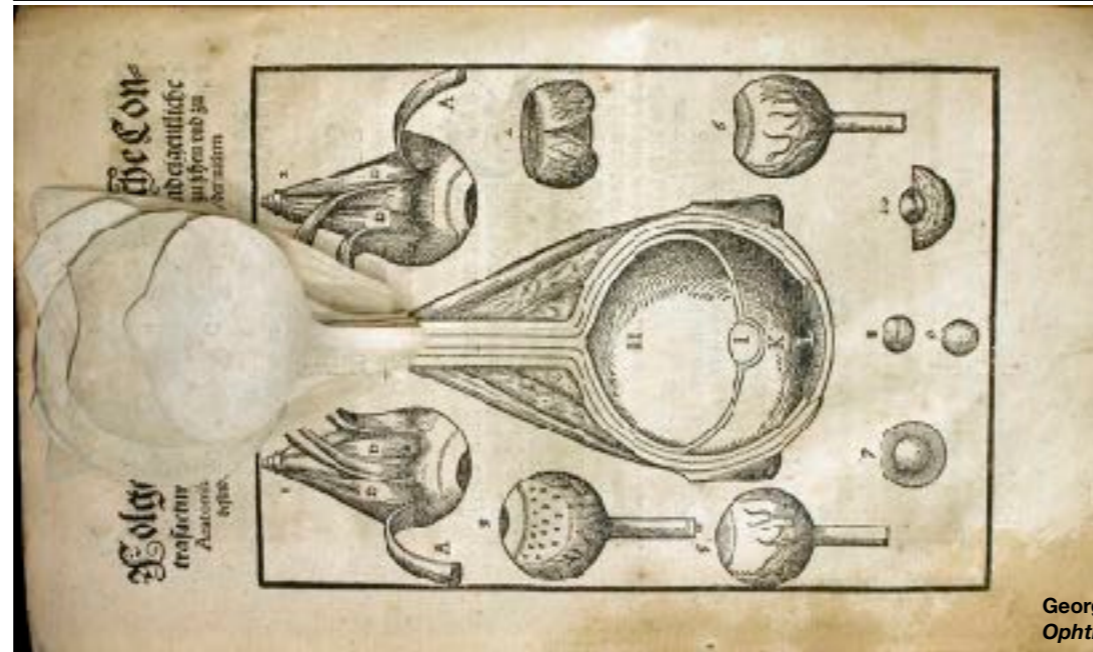


Georg Bartisch,
Ophthalmology (1583)

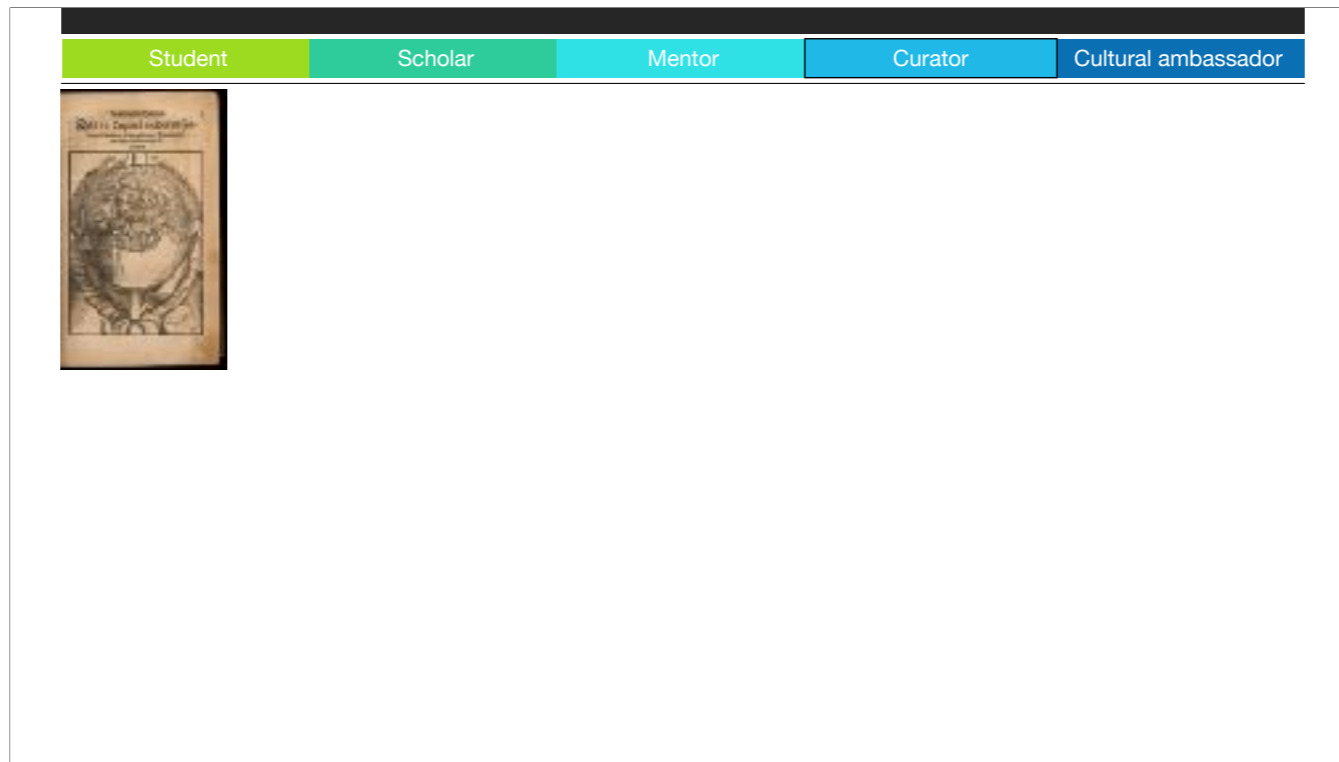


Georg Bartisch, *Ophthalmology* (1583)





Georg Bartisch,
Ophthalmology (1583)



Another series of anatomical flaps reveals the optical pathways in the brain.



Student

Scholar

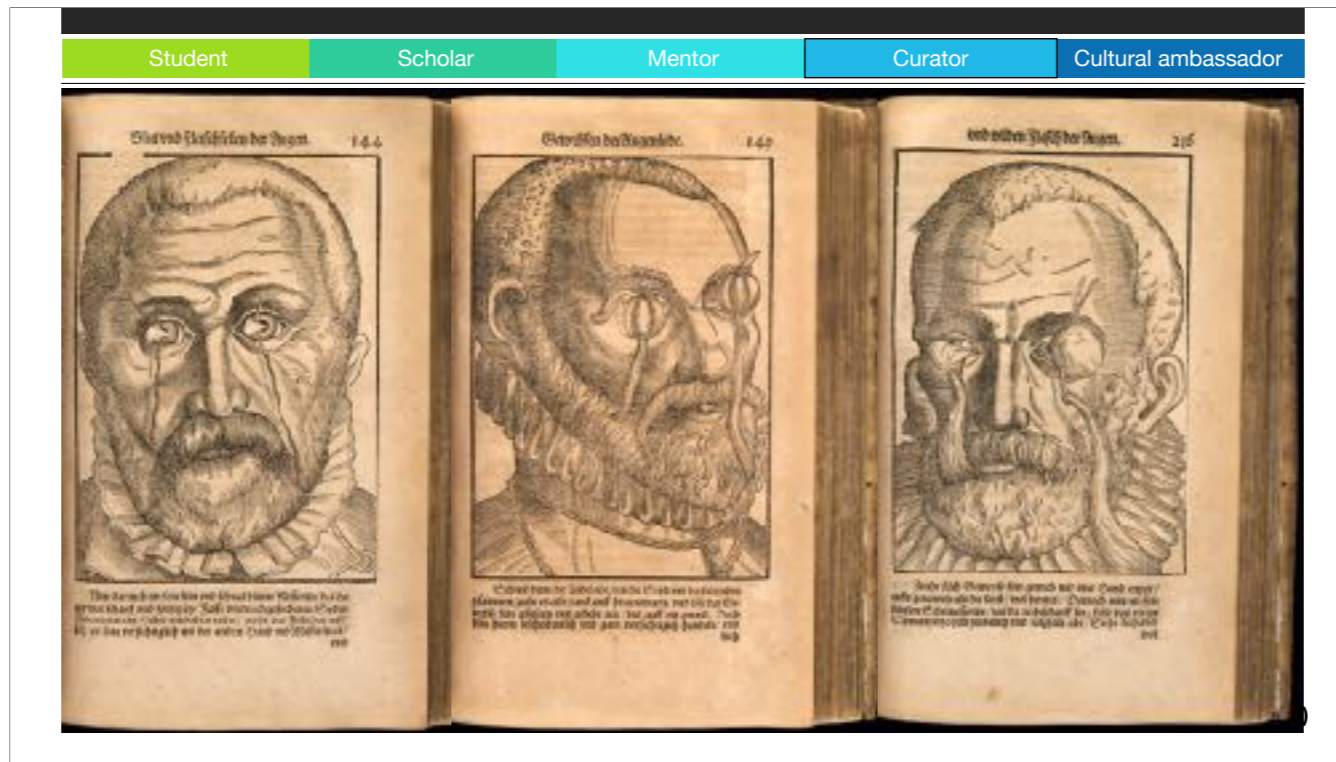
Mentor

Curator

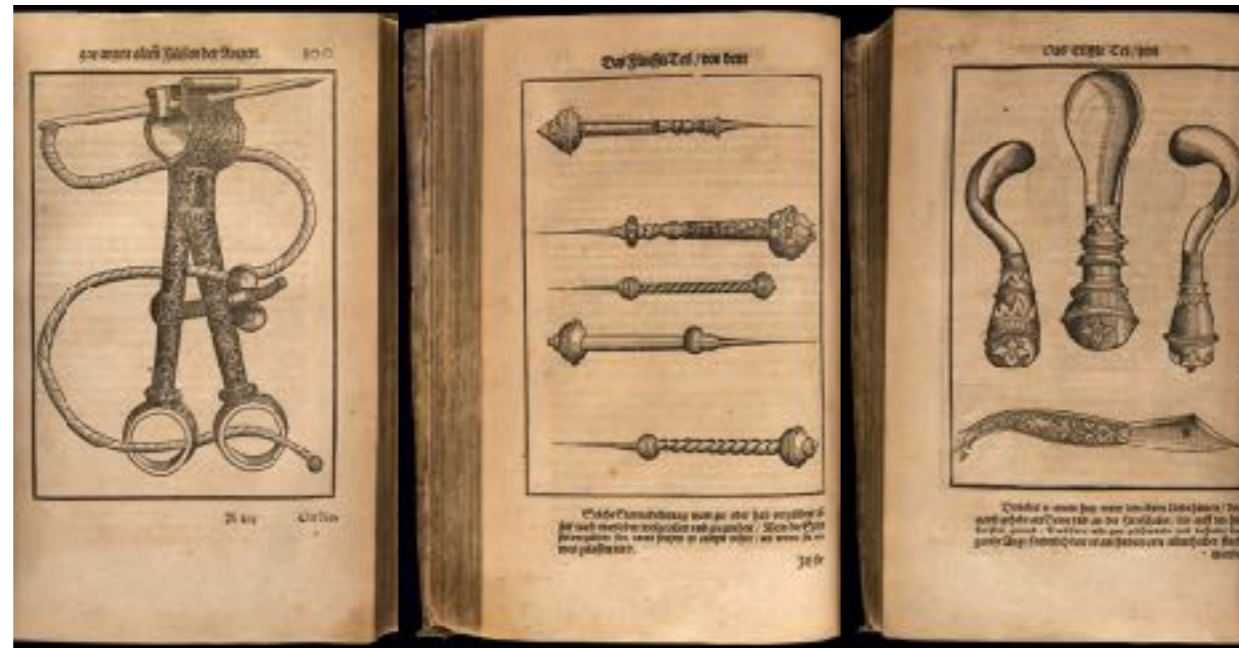
Cultural ambassador



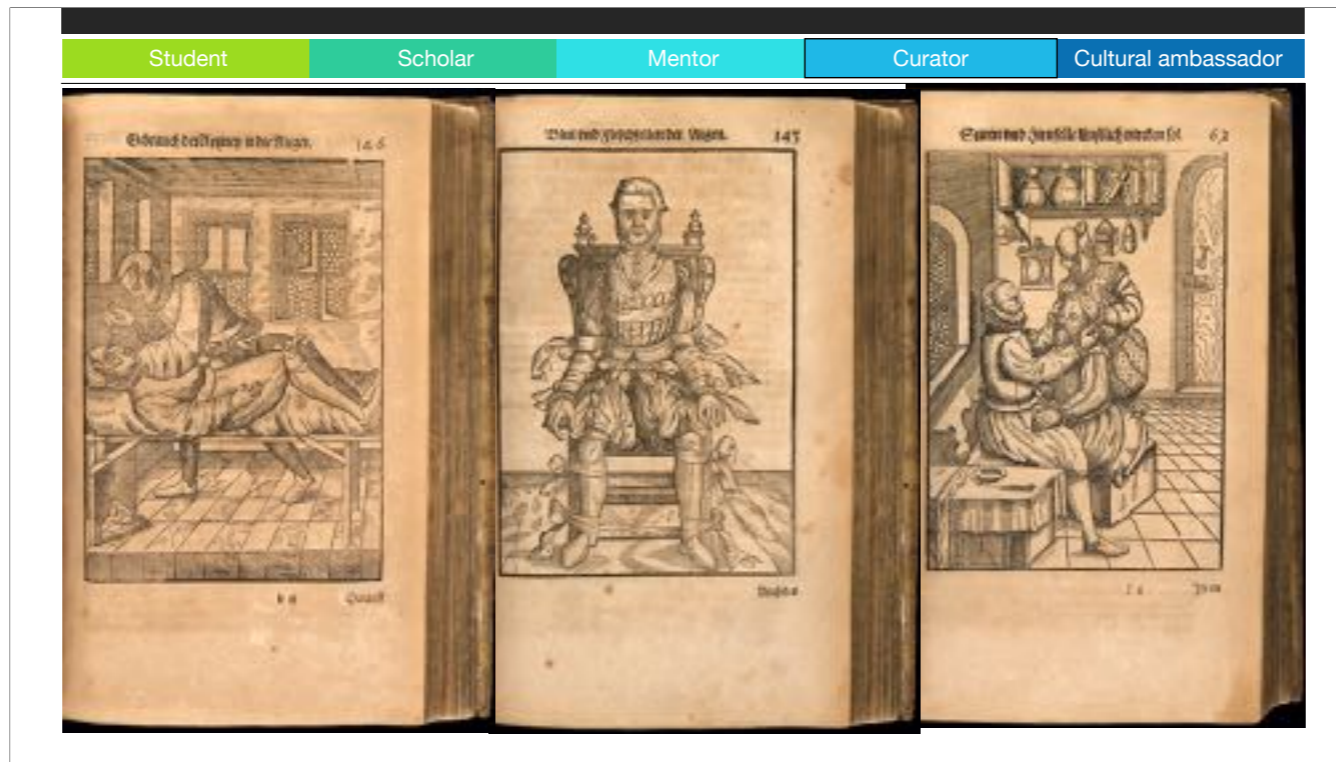
The work is profusely illustrated with 88 full-page woodcuts.



The woodcuts depict various surgeries and treatments



Instruments



practices and operations, all of which make me glad I live in the 21st century, with the Dean McGee Eye Institute just up the road.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Nicolaes Tulp,
Observationes medicae
(Amsterdam, 1672)

In this book, Medical Observations, Nicolaes Tulp, a 17th-century Dutch surgeon, described a chimpanzee brought to Amsterdam in 1630 by the West India Company.
• He reported that the horn of the unicorn on display in natural history museums across Europe was actually the tusk of the narwhal.

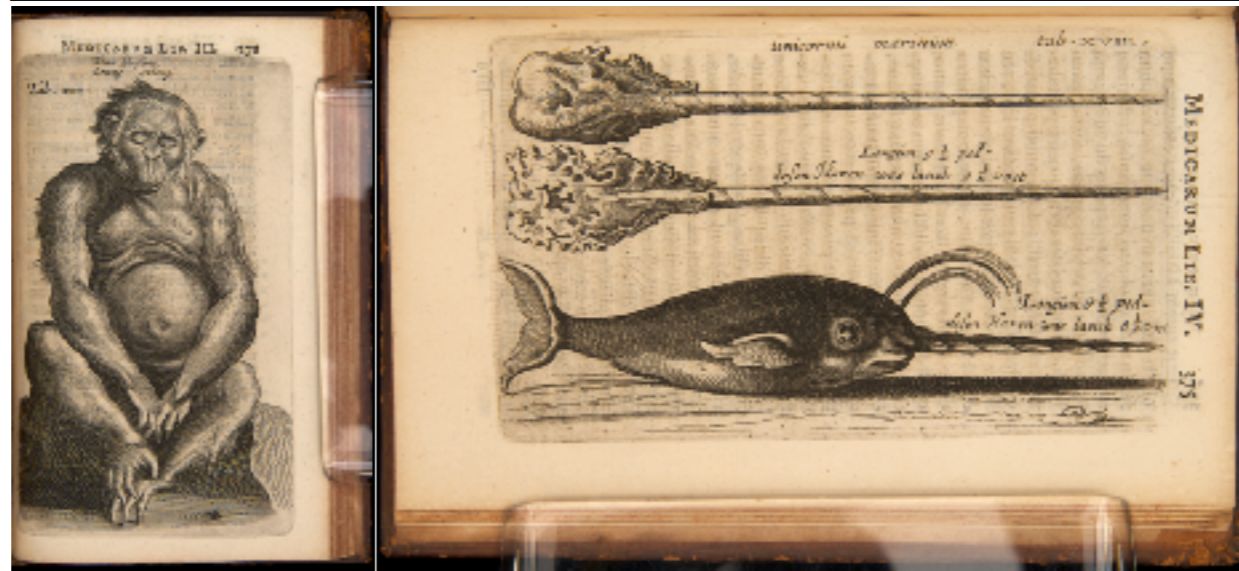
Student

Scholar

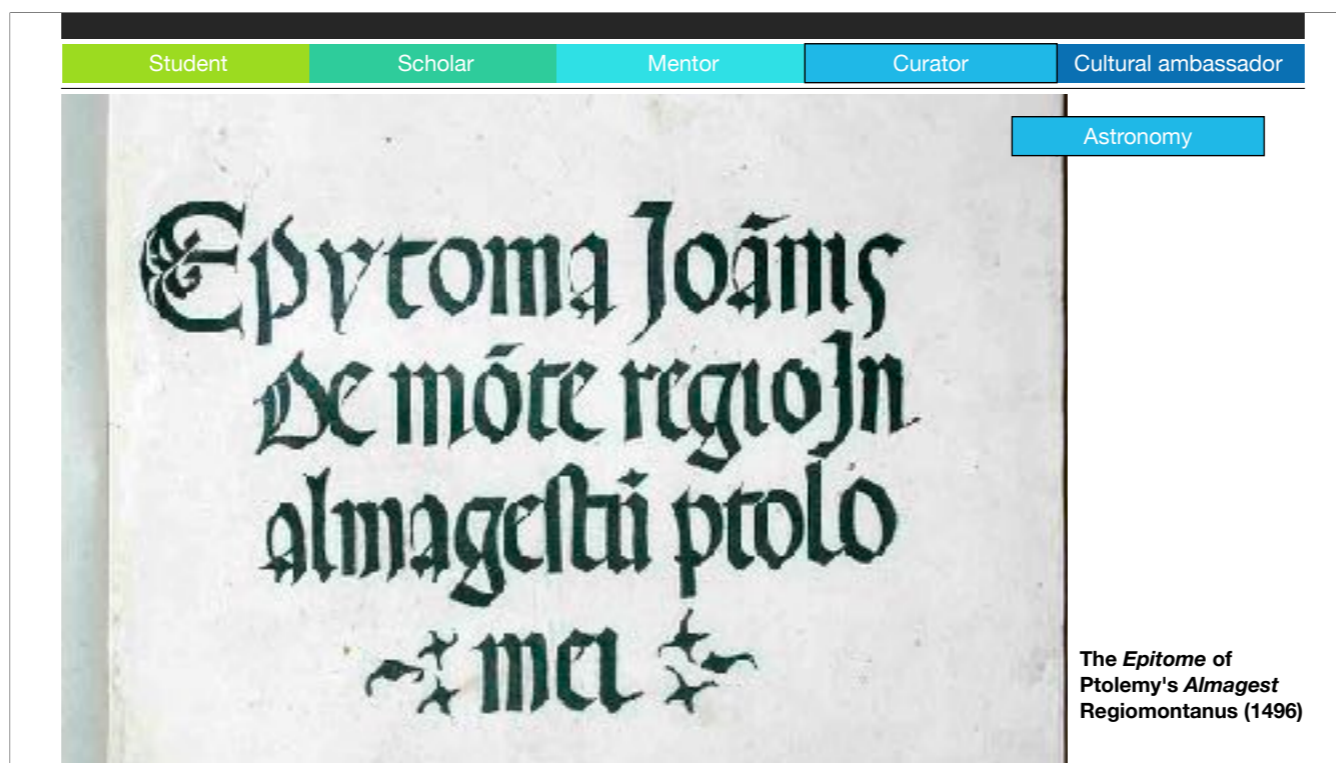
Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador




Nicolaes Tulp,
Observationes medicae
(Amsterdam, 1672)



Let's turn to astronomy. Marilyn acquired the first printed edition of Ptolemy's *Almagest*, this 1496 *Epitome* by Regiomontanus.

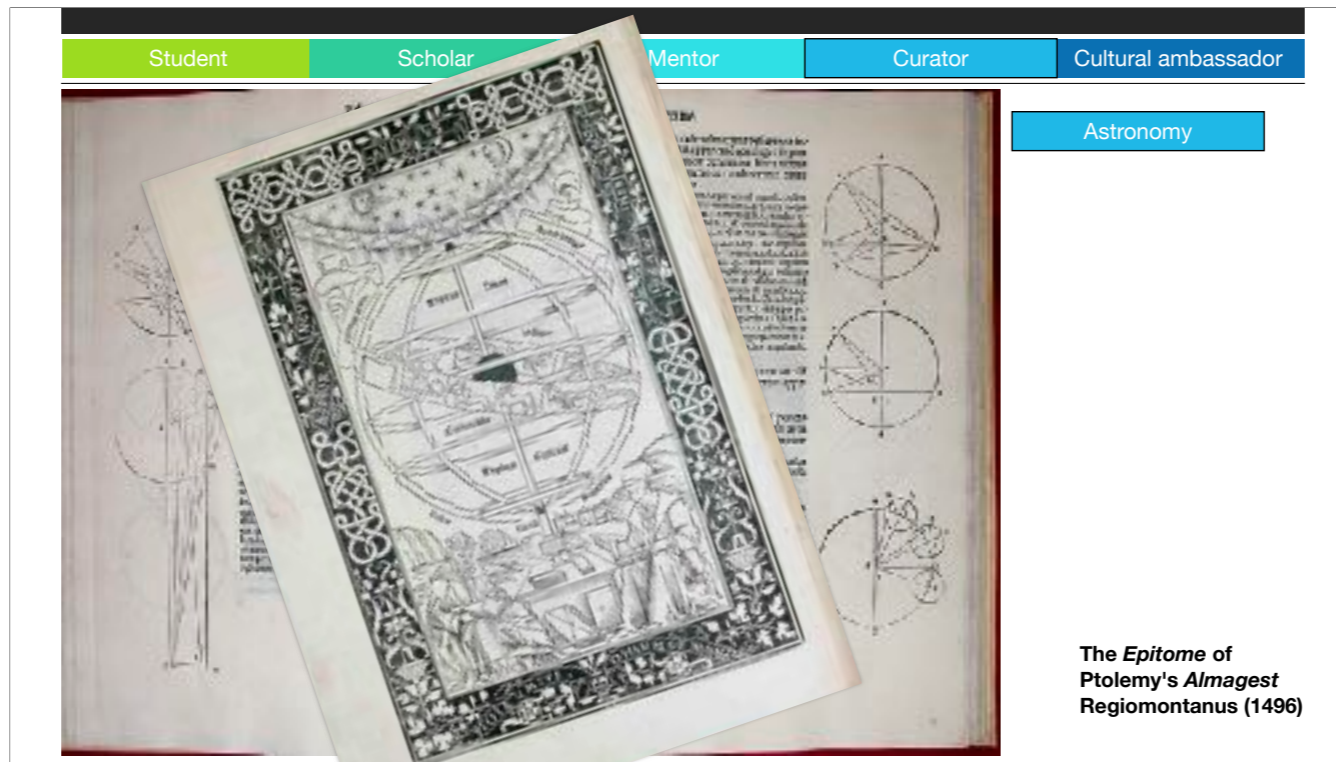
Student	Scholar	Mentor	Curator	Cultural ambassador
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Astronomy

The *Epitome* of Ptolemy's *Almagest* Regiomontanus (1496)

It advanced the reform of astronomy that was taken up a generation later by Copernicus.



When Marilyn brought me on staff in 2000, I remember asking what books she most wanted to acquire. The *Epitome of the Almagest* was in her top five.

- When the London bookseller Detlev Auvermann got hold of a copy, he hopped on an airplane and flew it over here, to leave with us for a calendar year to help us raise the funds to acquire it. About 10 months later, a friend of the Collections came through with the remaining funds needed for the purchase. Marilyn, remember that?

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Astronomy



Detlev Auvermann

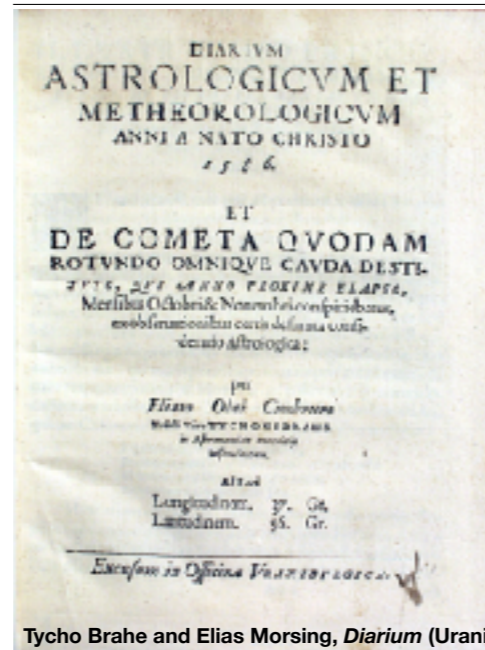
*The Epitome of
Ptolemy's Almagest*
Regiomontanus (1496)



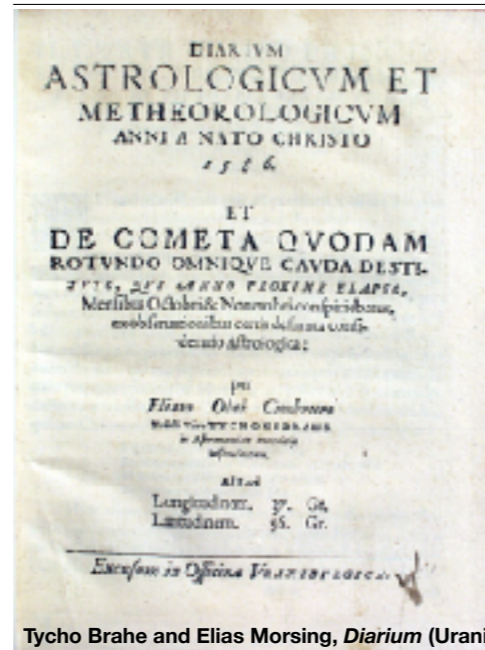
Tycho Brahe and Elias Morsing, *Diarium* (Uraniborg, 1586)

Tycho Brahe was the most accomplished European observational astronomer before the telescope. This is the first and rarest of the three books printed on his private press at Uraniborg on the island of Hven. The printer's device shows a classical hero with an astronomical globe at his side.

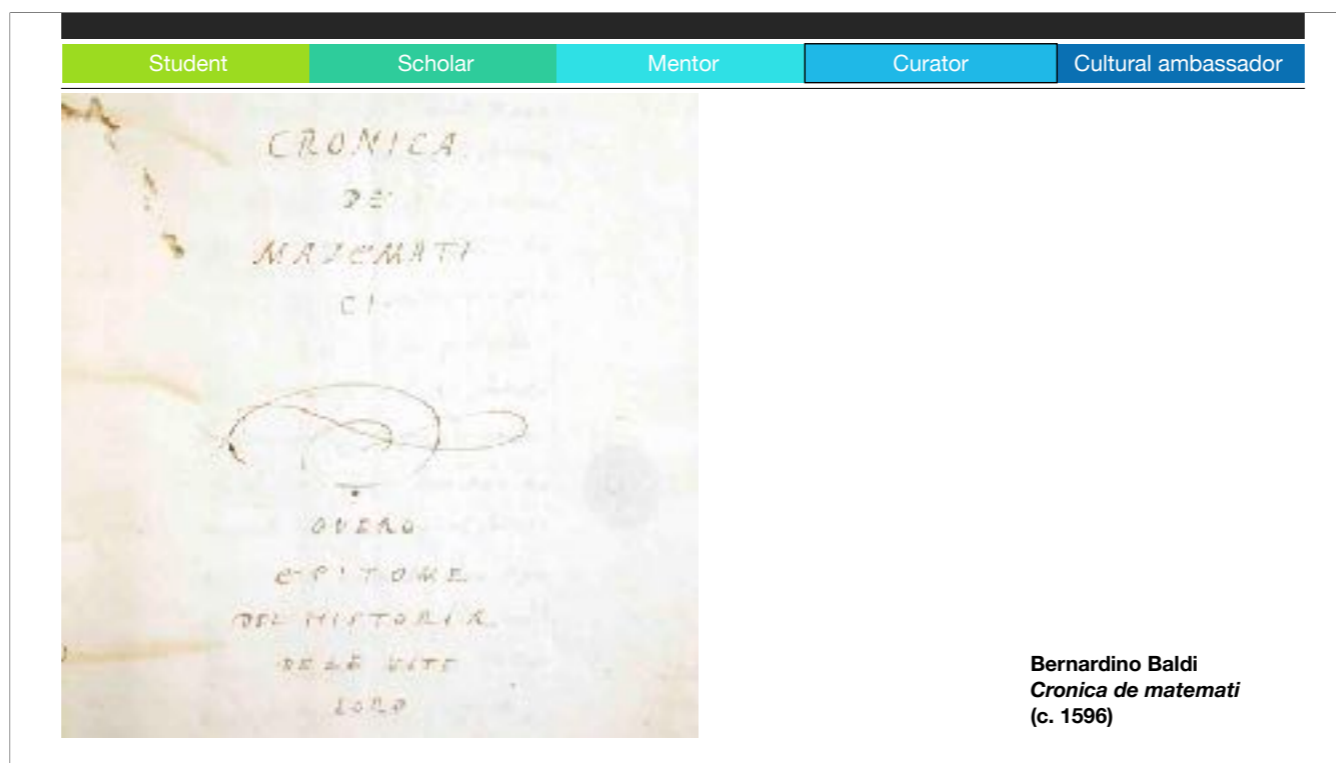
- Tycho's famous motto, *Suspiciendo*
- *Despicio*, means (by looking up, I look down). The printer's device appears in this book for the first time.



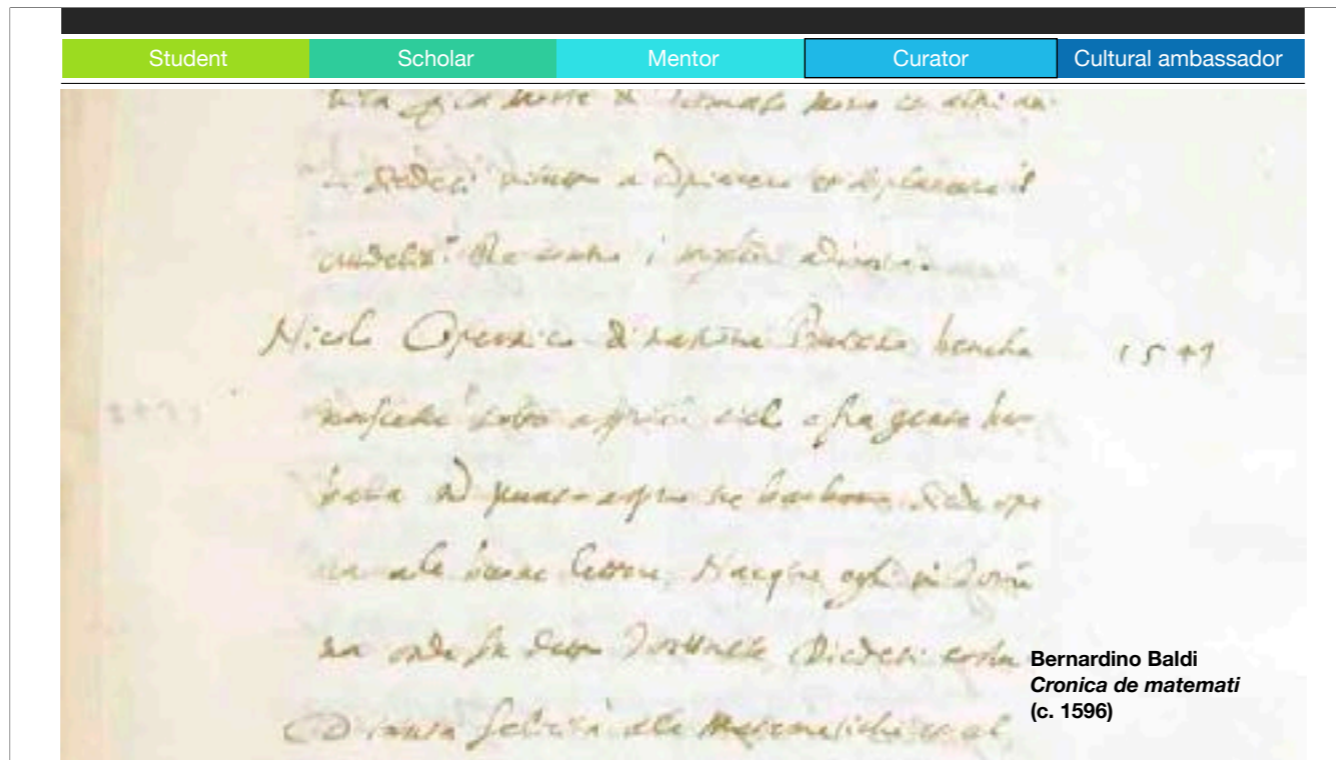
Tycho Brahe and Elias Morsing, *Diarium* (Uraniborg, 1586)



Tycho Brahe and Elias Morsing, *Diarium* (Uraniborg, 1586)



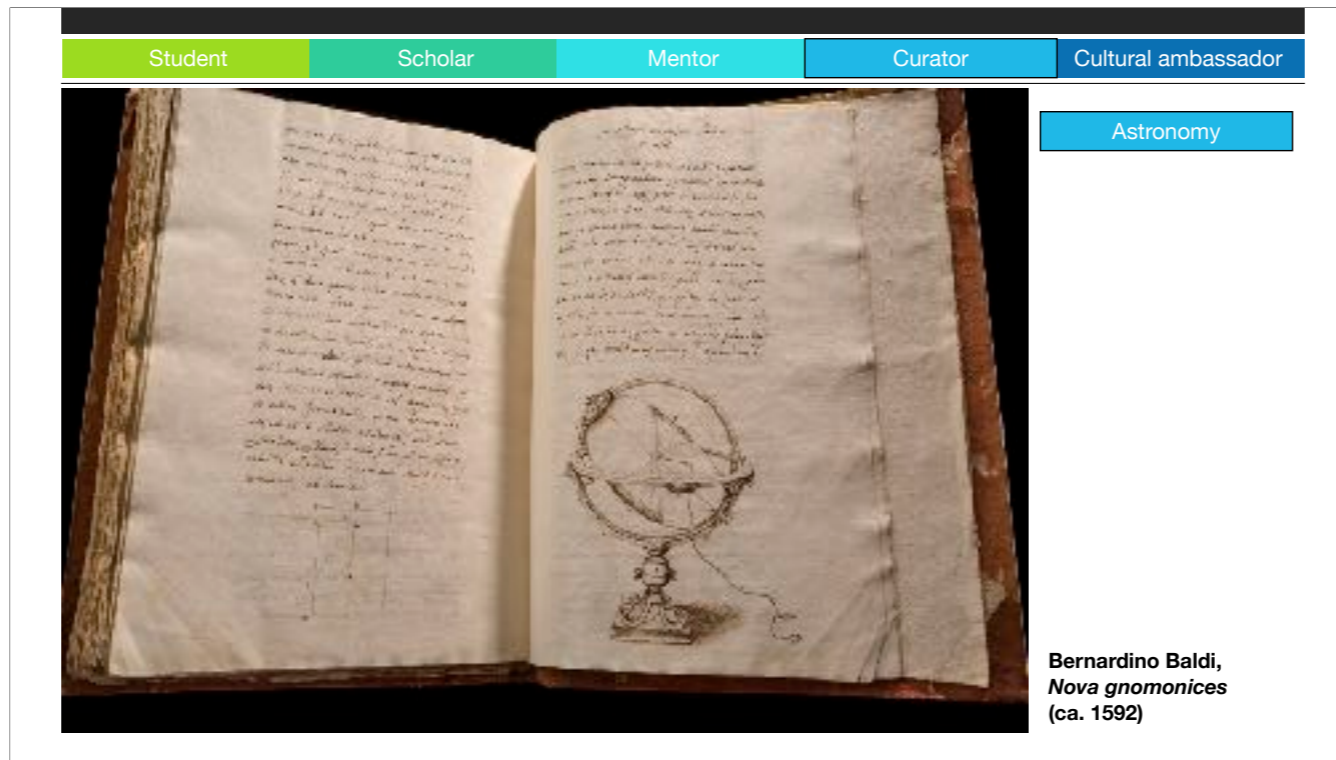
Marilyn acquired a number of interesting manuscripts as well as printed books, including this autograph copy of a history of mathematics



written in the late 1500's by a teacher of Galileo. Here is an entry for Copernicus.

una g... d... d... d... d... d...
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 Nicol. Opera... d... d... d... d... d... 1549
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Bernardino Baldi
 Cronica de matemati
 (c. 1596)



Here is a manuscript treatise on sundials by the same author. This work was never published and, since 1783, it was considered lost in a shipwreck. But it survived; it was not actually on the ship that sank. So when it came to light, the bookseller contacted Marilyn. Marilyn was determined to acquire it so we could make it widely available to scholars. Like almost all of the books I'm sharing with you, this one-of-a-kind manuscript is now included in our open access digital library.

Student Scholar Mentor Curator Cultural ambassador

Astronomy



Thomas Salusbury,
Mathematical Collections
(London, 1661)

Marilyn acquired the first English translation of several works by Galileo, including

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



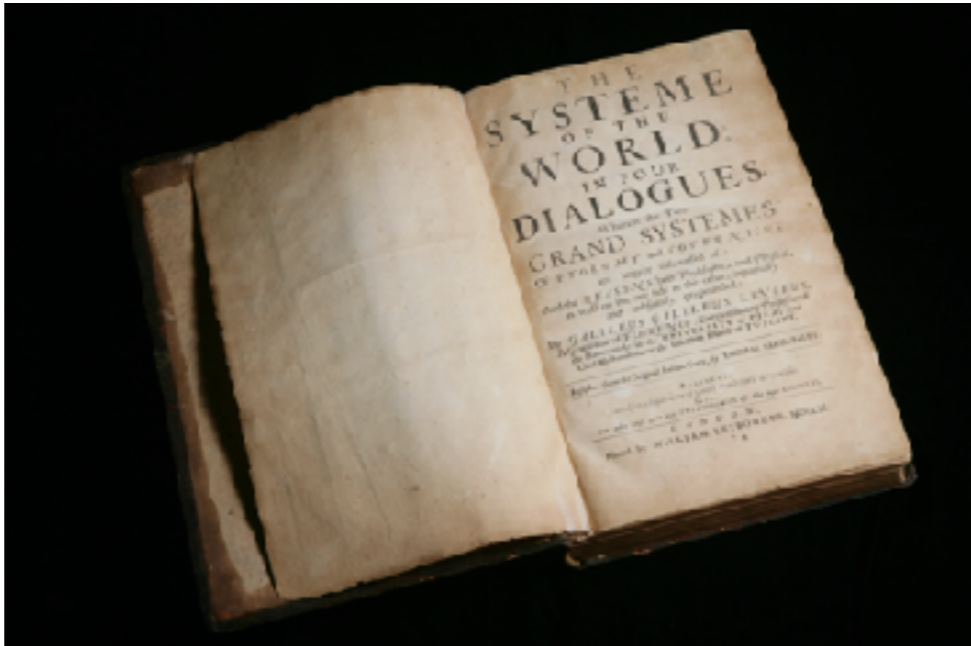
Astronomy

Thomas Salusbury,
Mathematical Collections
(London, 1661)

Galileo's letter to the Grand Duchess Christina

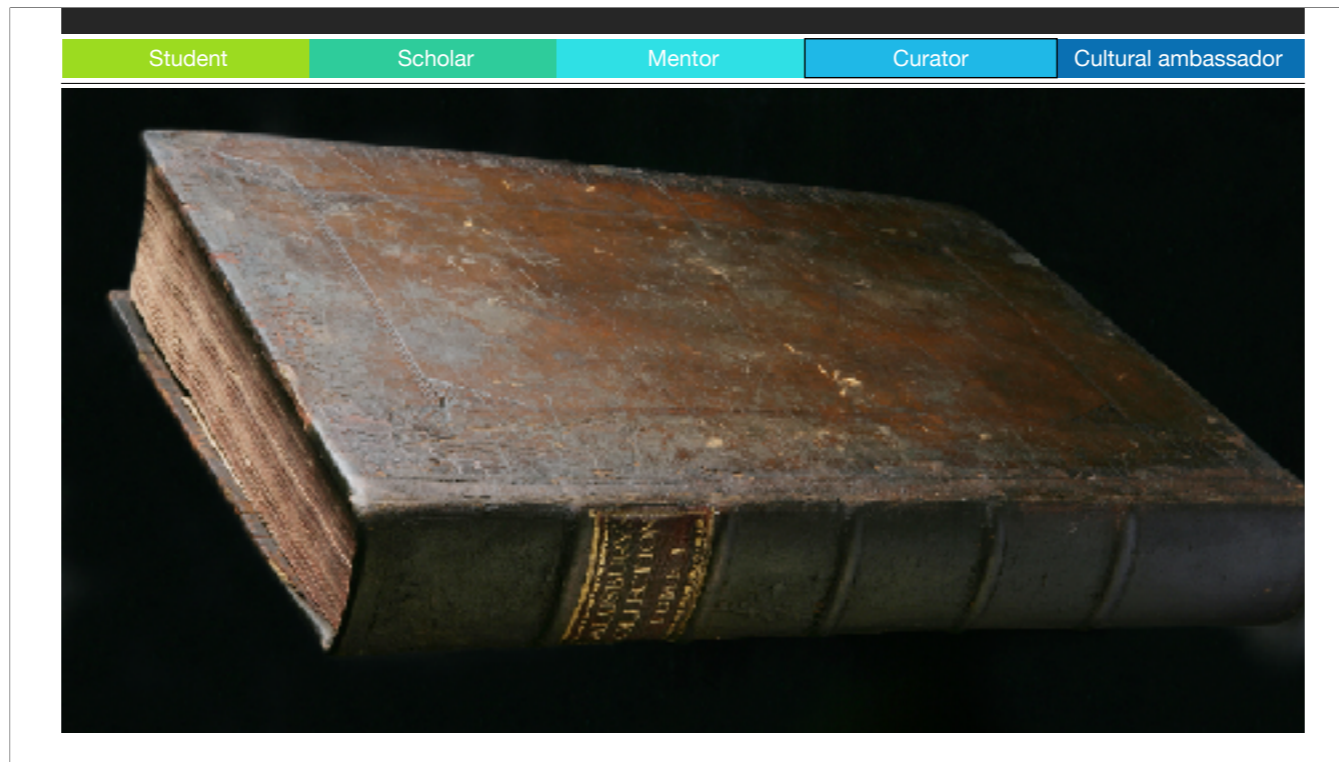
Student Scholar Mentor Curator Cultural ambassador

Astronomy

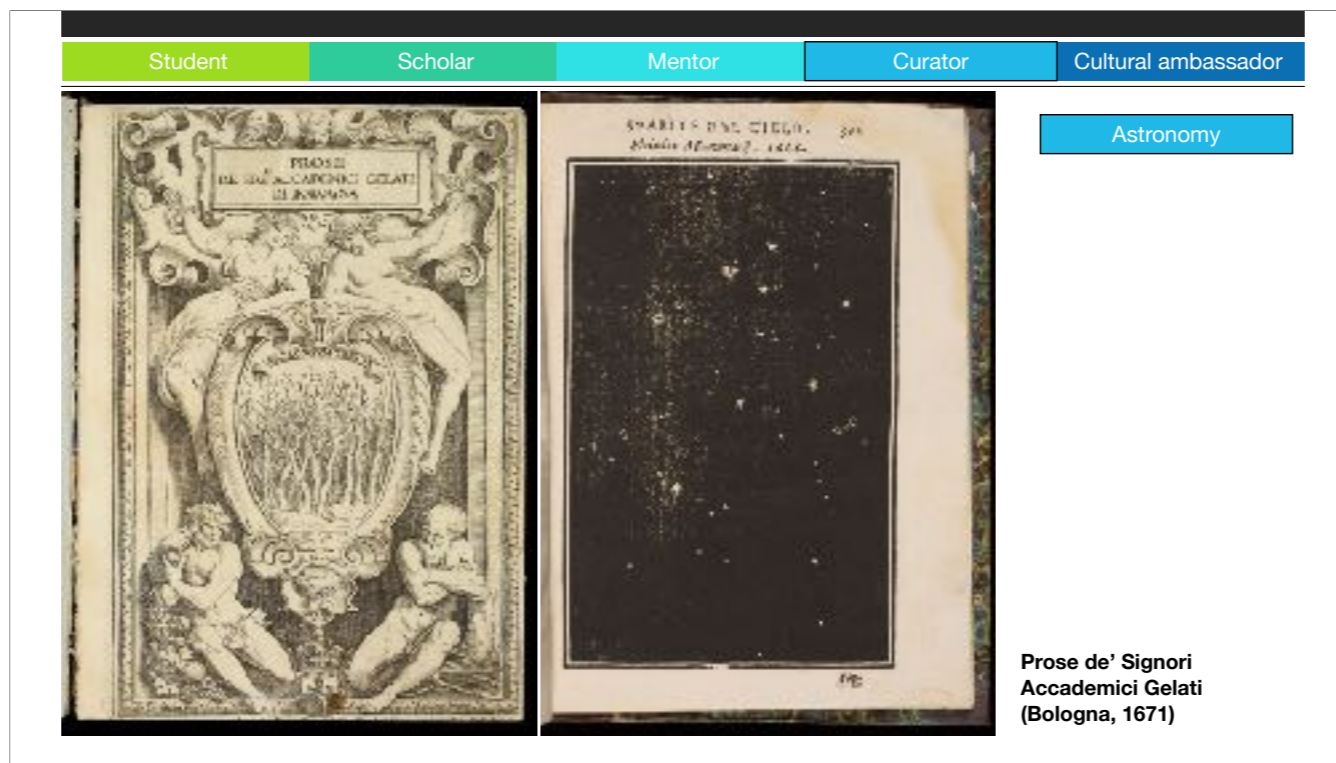


Thomas Salusbury,
Mathematical Collections
(London, 1661)

and Galileo's Dialogue on the Two Chief Systems of the World.



Many copies perished in the Great Fire of London in 1665. The binding is charred in this copy, perhaps snatched from the flames.



This is the scarce first edition of writings by a leading learned society in Bologna. The volume includes Montanari's observations of the Pleiades, which he compares with those of Galileo.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Astronomy



Francesco Fontana, *Novae Coelestium Terrestriumque Rerum Observationes* (1646);
"New Celestial and Terrestrial Observations"

Inspired by Galileo, Fontana constructed his own telescope, improving the optics. Around 1629 he began a series of sketches of the face of the Moon.

- A series of 28 copperplate engravings reveal the Moon's surface as perceived on different dates,
- as well as a fold-out lunar map.

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Astronomy



Francesco Fontana, *Novae Coelestium Terrestriumque Rerum Observationes* (1646);
“New Celestial and Terrestrial Observations”

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Francesco Fontana, *Novae Coelestium Terrestriumque Rerum Observationes* (1646);
“New Celestial and Terrestrial Observations”

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Astronomy

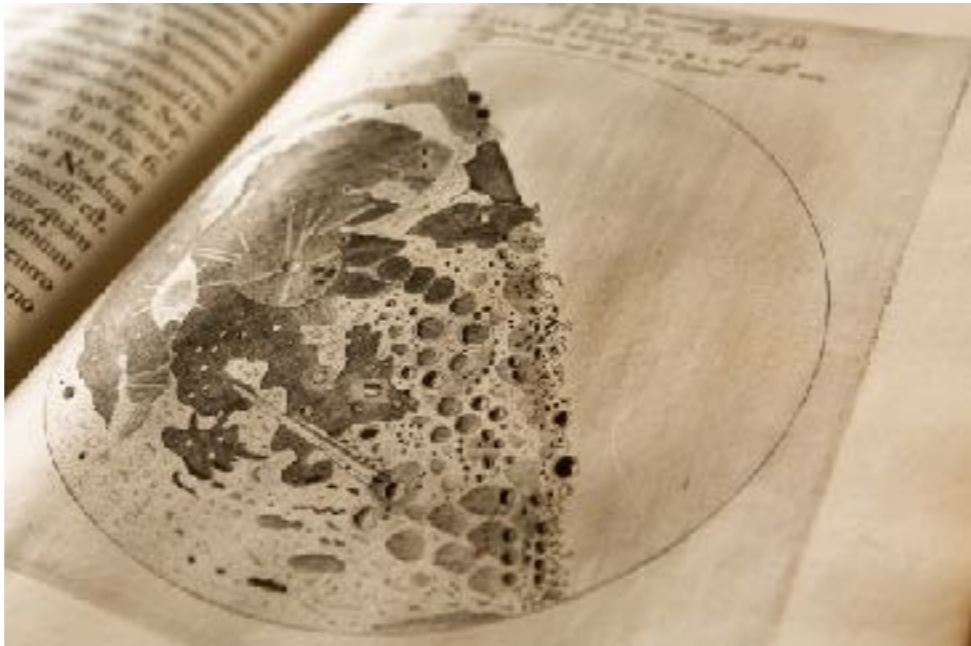


Johannes Hevelius,
Selenographia (1647)

Accurate depiction of the topography of the Moon was accomplished by mid-century in this lunar atlas by Hevelius. 40 stunning copper-plate engravings portray topographical relief along the Moon's shadow-line, or terminator, at every conceivable angle of solar illumination.

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Astronomy



Johannes Hevelius,
Selenographia (1647)

They represent the appearance of the Moon, along the terminator, over a period of five years.

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**Johannes Hevelius,
Selenographia (1647)**

A double-page plate depicts the entire lunar surface. Rather than comprising a naturalistic portrait of how the Moon actually appears to the eye, this map is a composite record of the shadows cast by the passing of light moving back and forth, in both directions, during opposite lunar phases, throughout the entire lunar cycle.



Fabio Colonna, *Phytobasanos* (Naples, 1592)

In natural history, this book by Colonna is the first book to contain copperplate engravings of plants. Engravings show much more detail than was possible with woodcuts, as is evident by comparing Colonna's engravings of the plants with the borders, which are woodcuts.

 The plant phu (p. 114), believed to be a cure for epilepsy, motivated Colonna's botanical work. A specimen of *Solanum manicum* (p. 47) was given to Colonna by Antonio Recchi, the custodian of the royal Hernandez manuscript.



Fabio Colonna, Phytobasanos (Naples, 1592)

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Francisco Hernandez,
Natural History of Mexico
(1651)

Marilyn acquired the Natural History of Mexico, by Hernandez,

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Natural History



Francisco Hernandez,
Natural History of Mexico
(1651)

with its descriptions of Mexican plants, published by the original Academy of the Lynx, of which Galileo was a member.



The Hernandez was another book on Marilyn's top five list. Marilyn received a call from Emma Sermoneta, a bookseller in Italy who had a copy. She also had a buyer who was willing to pay her full asking price. But she was afraid that he intended to break the book, to disbind it and sell it page by page as individual leaves. So she offered it to Marilyn at a significant discount IF Marilyn could raise the money within 48 hours. So you can see it here today, thanks to Marilyn's resourcefulness and to a bookseller who cared more for the preservation of the book than for profit. Marilyn, remember that?

Afterward we realized that the OU copy is unique; it contains bound within it pages from an earlier draft, printed more than 20 years before the work was revised and finished. Embodied in this book is evidence about a very complex history of its composition, which would have been destroyed if the book had been disbound.

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Cultural ambassador

Natural History



Rosel von Rosenhof
(1765 - 1788), 9 vols

This plate is from a 9-volume work on invertebrates Marilyn acquired

Student

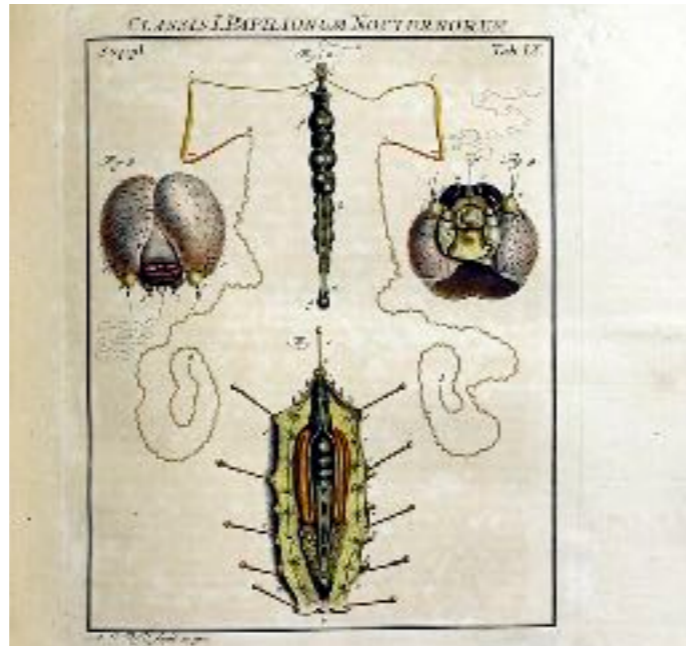
Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Natural History



Rosel von Rosenhof
(1765 - 1788), 9 vols

It's by Rosel von Rosenhof, a portrait artist by vocation but a naturalist at heart...

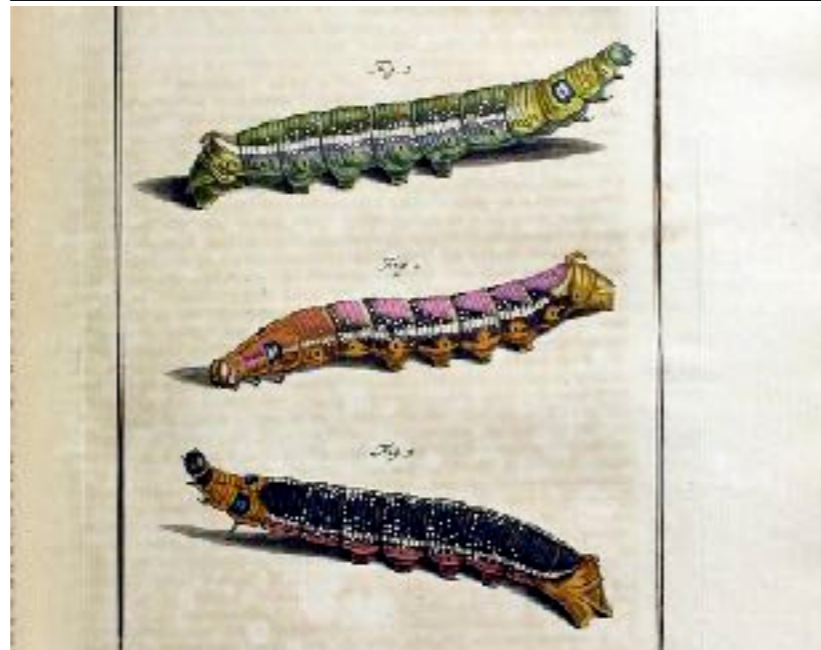
Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador




Natural History

Rosel von Rosenhof
(1765 - 1788), 9 vols

It contains nearly 400 plates!

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Natural History




Rosel von Rosenhof
(1765 - 1788), 9 vols

The image shows a scientific illustration of a moth and its pupa. The pupa is at the top, brown and segmented. Below it are two views of a moth: one with wings spread, showing green and black patterns with pinkish-red markings, and another with wings folded. The illustration is on a light-colored background with a vertical line to the right.

each engraved by Rosenhof

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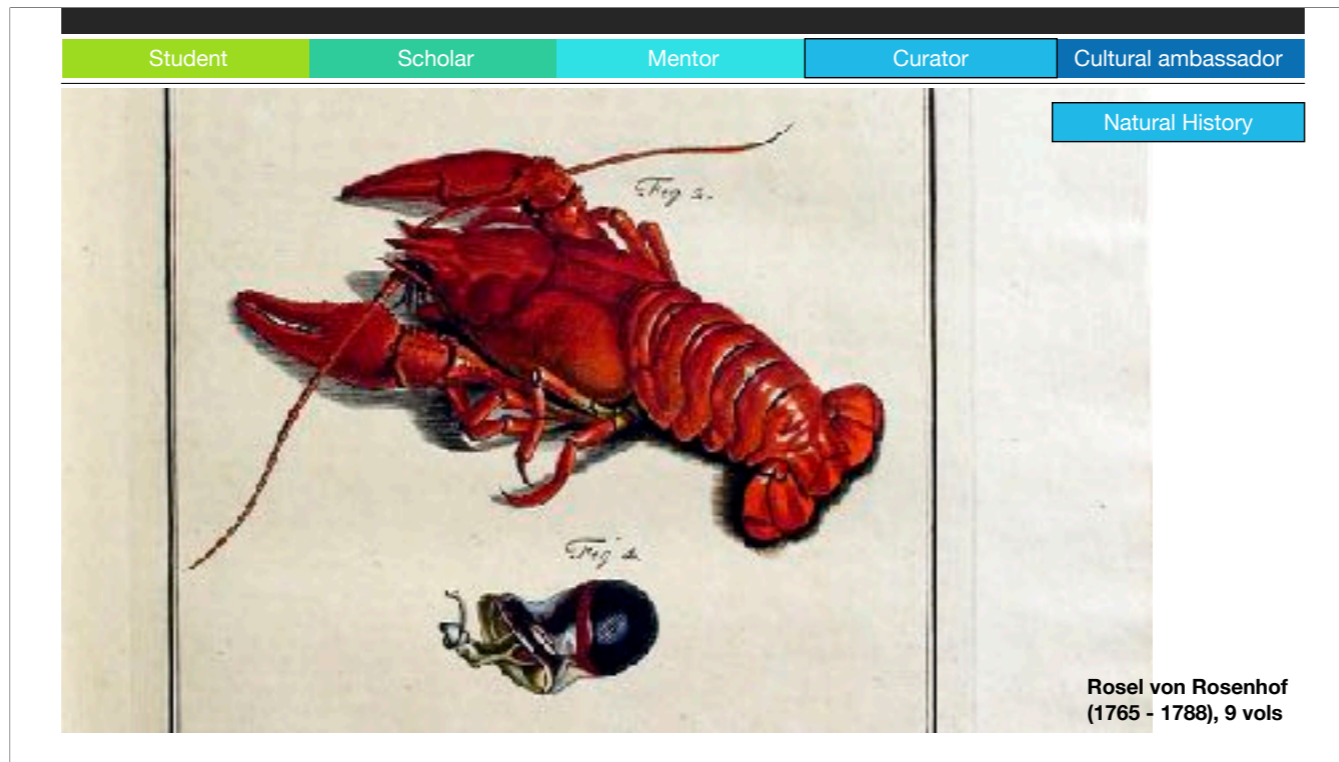
Natural History



Rosel von Rosenhof
(1765 - 1788), 9 vols

The image shows a scientific plate with four hand-colored illustrations of butterflies. The top-left butterfly is dark with blue and white markings. The top-right butterfly is brown and white with a prominent eye-like spot. The bottom-left butterfly is brown and white with a prominent eye-like spot. The bottom-right butterfly is dark with blue and white markings. The illustrations are arranged in a 2x2 grid. The plate is titled 'Natural History' and is attributed to Rosel von Rosenhof (1765 - 1788), 9 vols.

painstakingly hand colored



by Rosenhof and his daughter

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Natural History

Rosel von Rosenhof
(1765 - 1788), 9 vols

in every individual copy

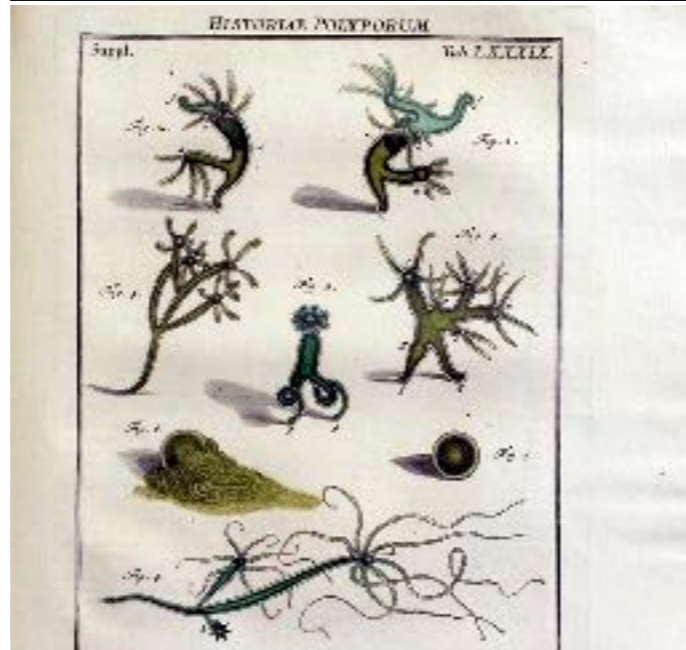
Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

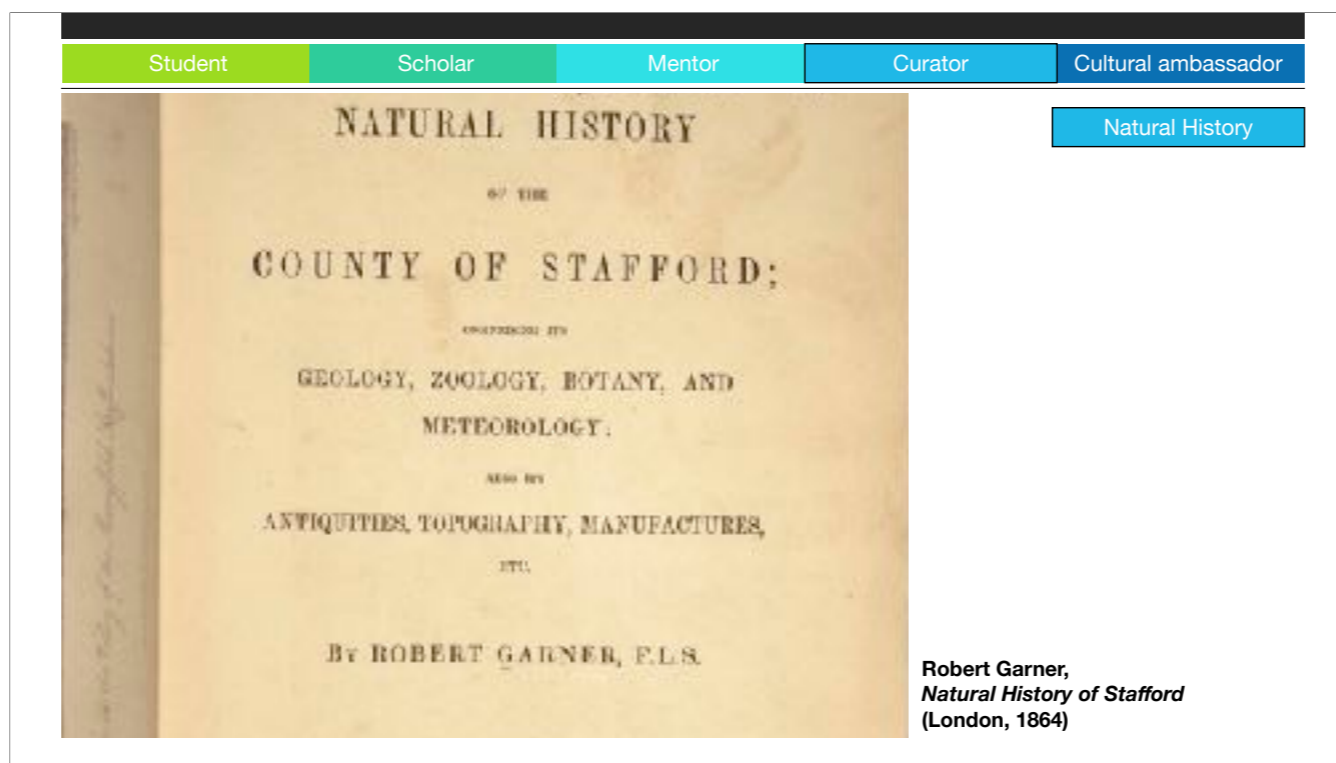
Cultural ambassador



Natural History

Rosel von Rosenhof
(1765 - 1788), 9 vols


Just stunning



One of Marilyn's favorite acquisitions was this mid-19th century natural history of Staffordshire, by Robert Garner. This is Garner's own copy of his book.

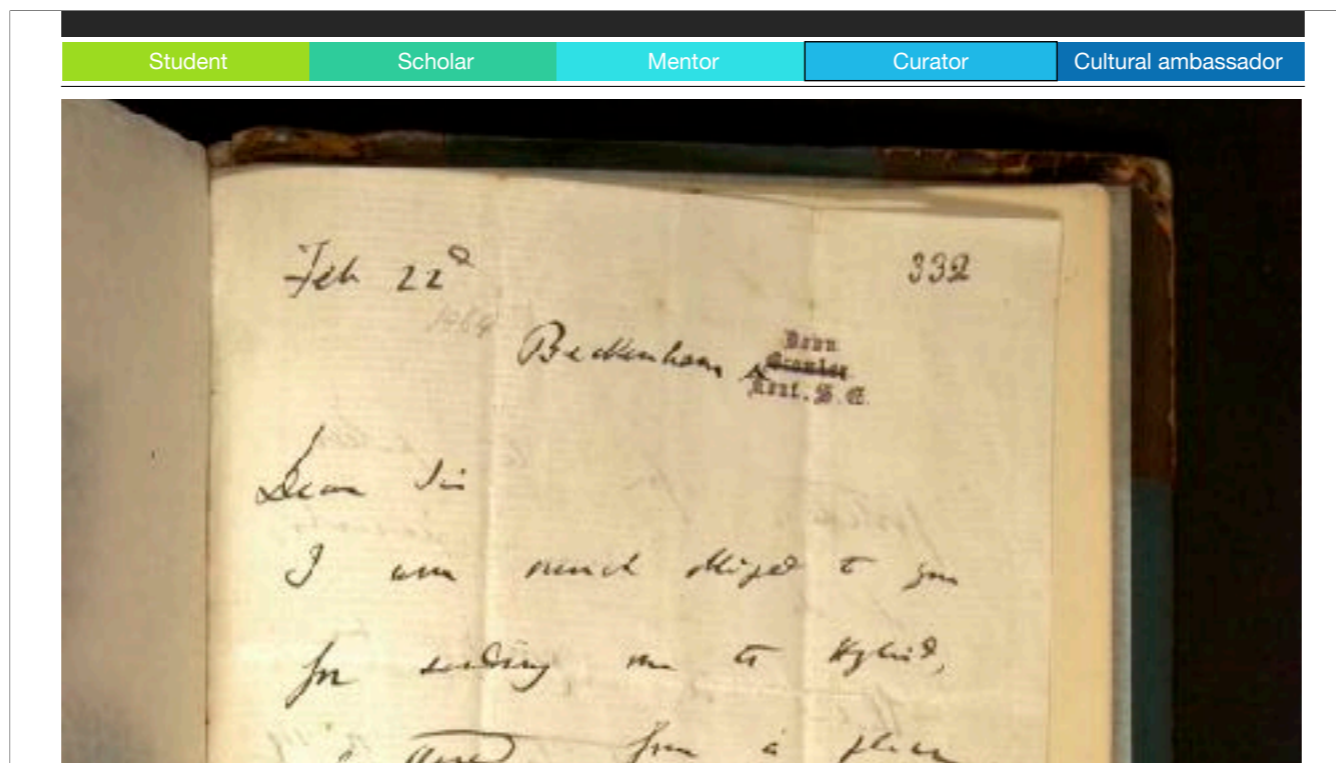
Student Scholar Mentor Curator Cultural ambassador

Natural History

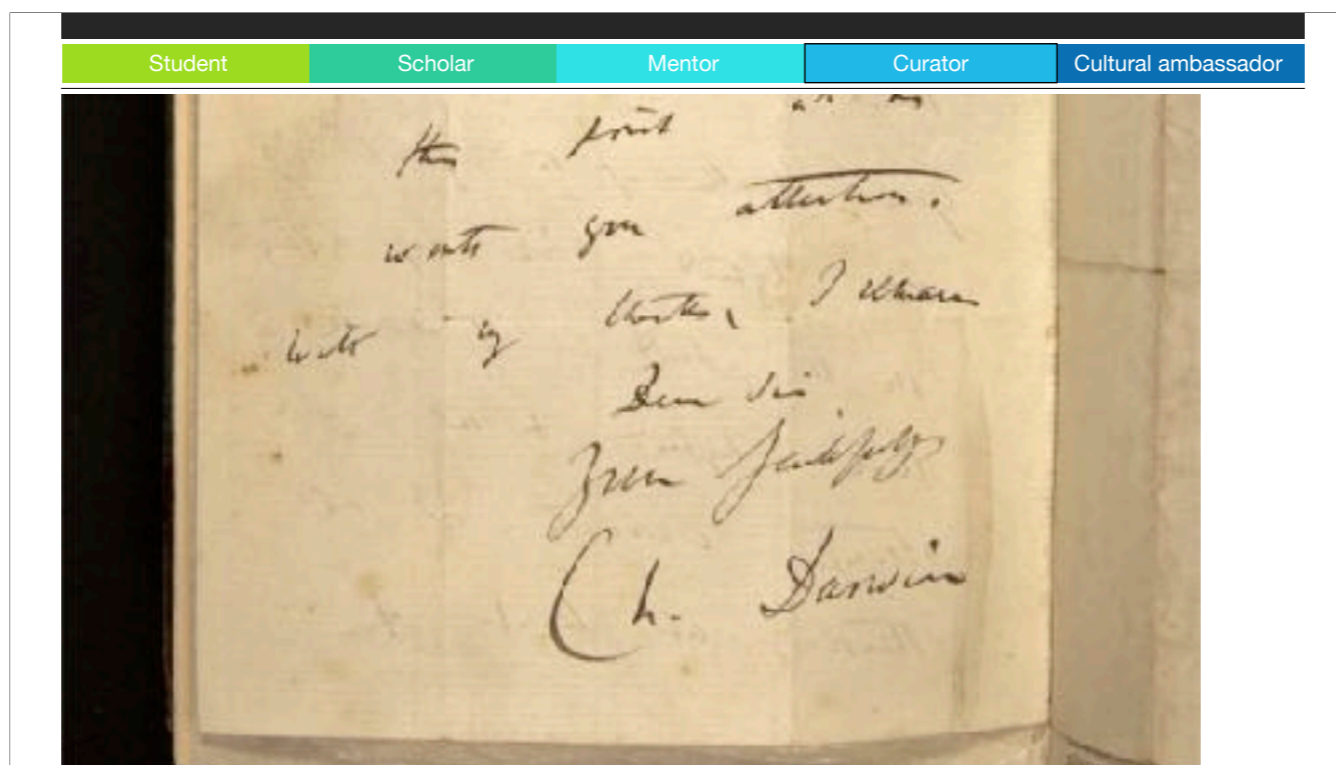


Robert Garner,
Natural History of Stafford
(London, 1864)

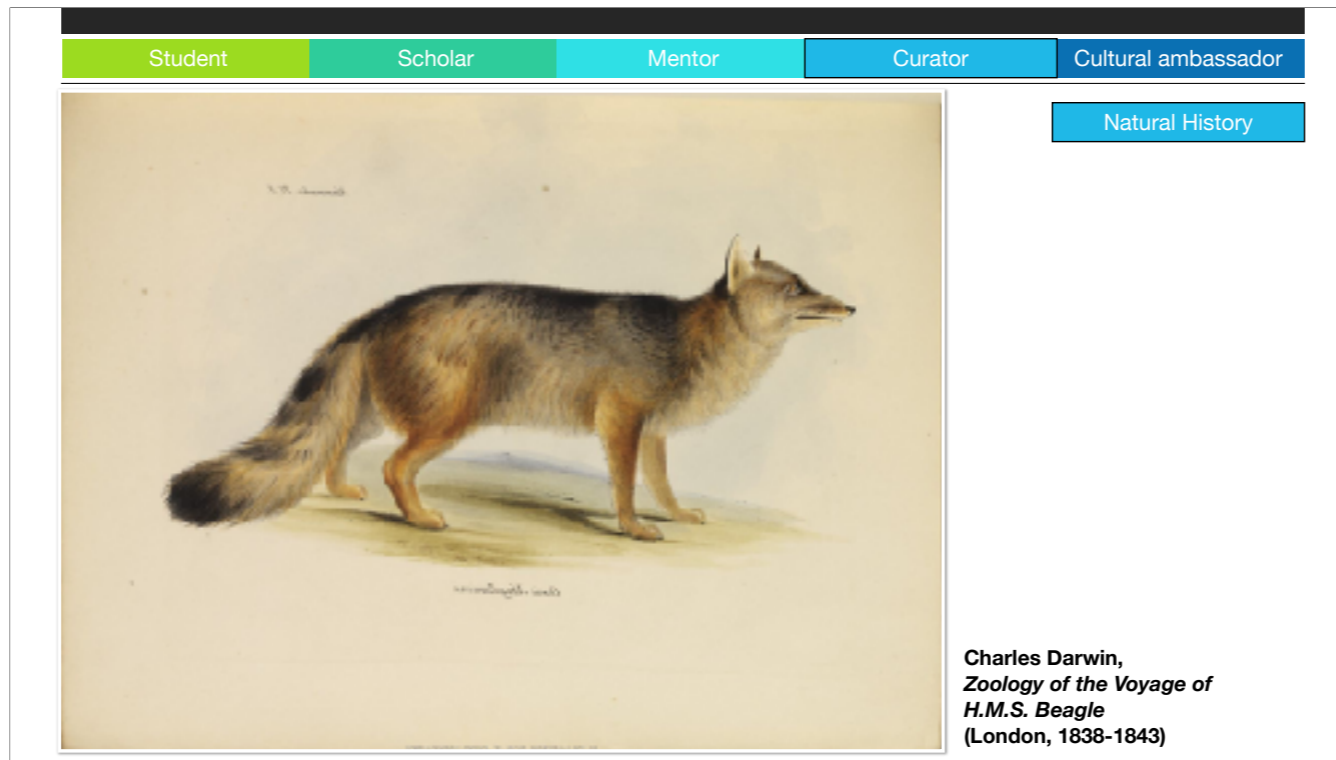
He bound in some interesting memorabilia at the end.



including a letter Garner prized highly -- many of you will recognize this handwriting!



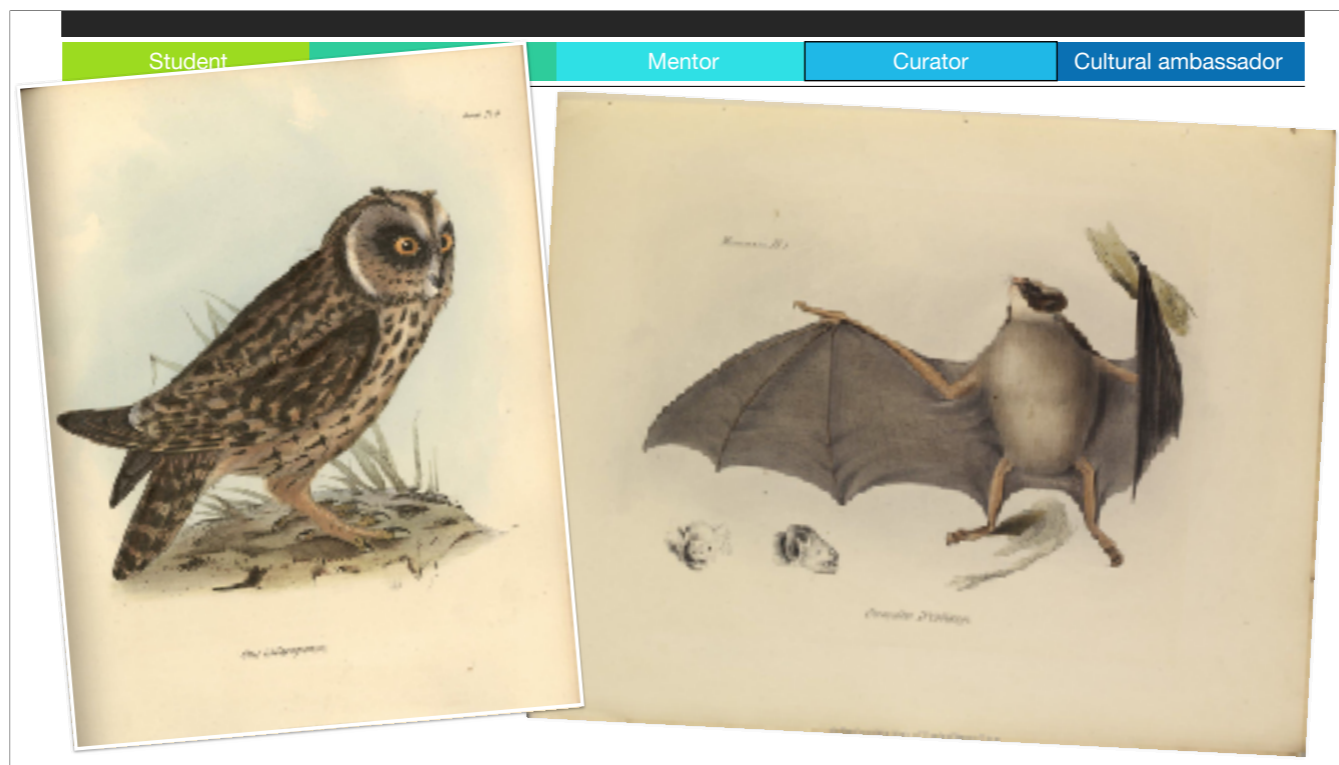
It is a letter to Garner from Charles Darwin — one of 8 original letters of Darwin held in the Collections.



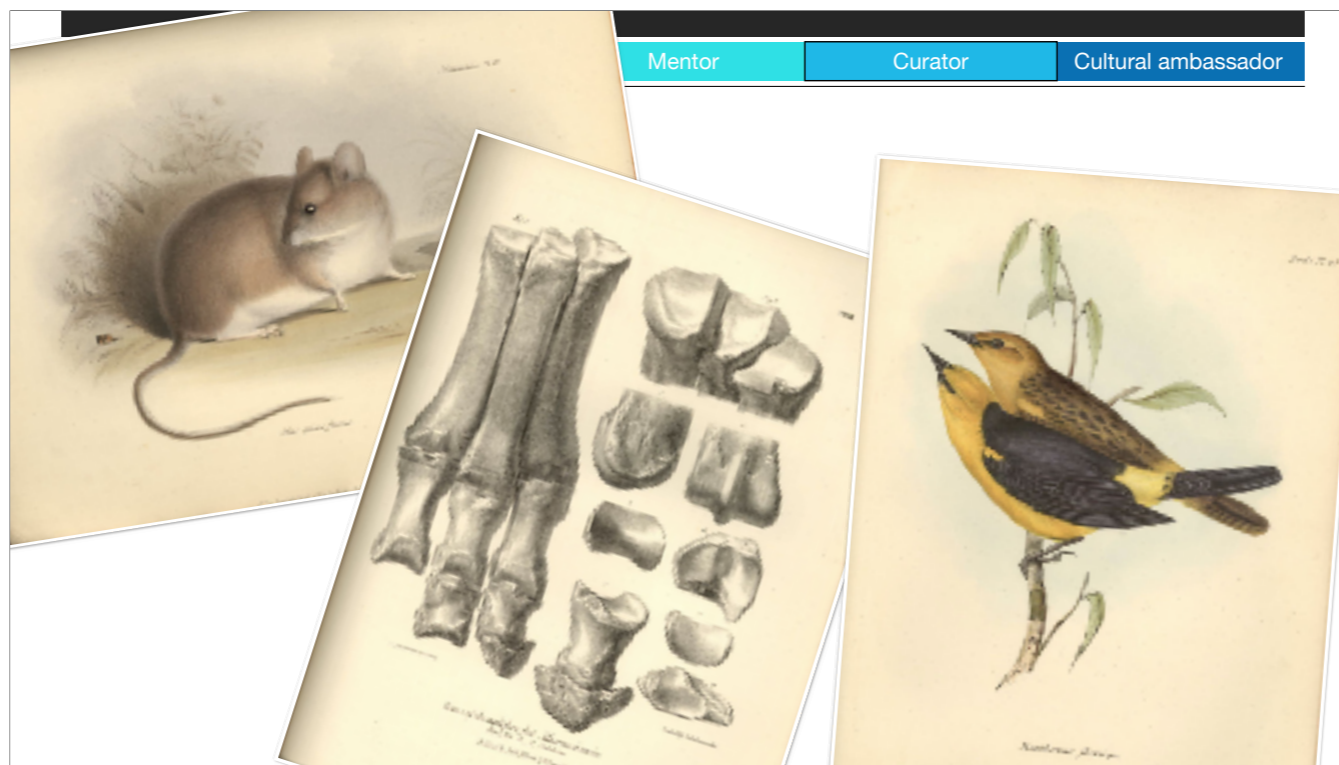
Marilyn's acquisition of *The Zooology of the Voyage of the Beagle*, another top five priority, completed the OU collection of Darwin 1st editions.



The Zoology, published over a 6 year period



is a magnificent quarto work, bound in three volumes, 2 of which are in the current display.



The work includes 166 plates, 82 of which are hand colored in every individual copy.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

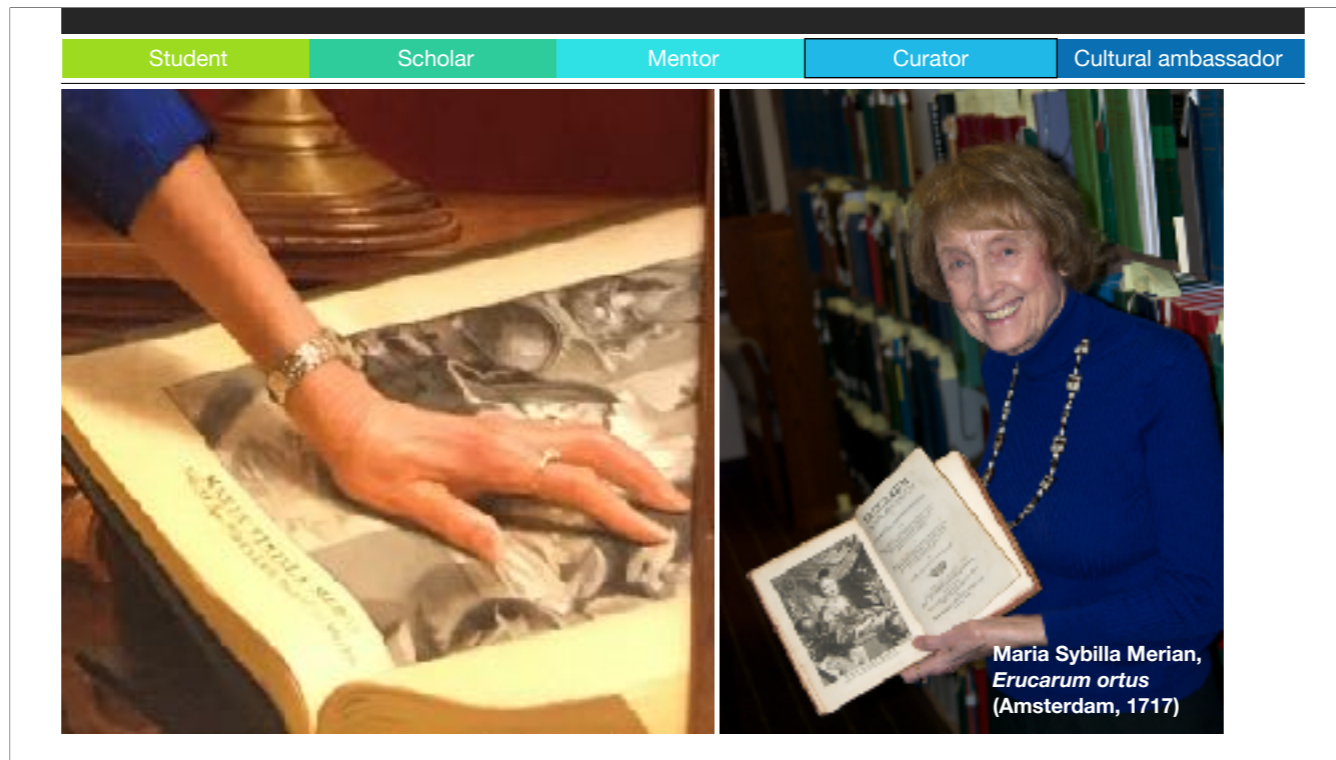
Cultural ambassador

Natural History



Maria Sybilla Merian,
Erucarum ortus
(Amsterdam, 1717)

Marilyn acquired the Caterpillar Garden by Maria Merian.



Commenting on the portrait by Mike Wimmer, Marilyn told me...

- “He placed my hand on my favorite book by Maria Merian. When I think of her, I’m determined to preserve the literary culture of the past. But more than that, we attempt to understand these people who were admirable in striving to understand and to create their world. Looking back and understanding their efforts will help us to do the same in our world. We can’t do that very well without help from them. It’s never completed.” If you want to read more from Marilyn, some copies of my conversation with Marilyn are set out on a counter in the room where the books are displayed.

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator


Cultural ambassador

"He placed my hand on my favorite book by Maria Merian. When I think of her, I'm determined to preserve the literary culture of the past. But more than that, we attempt to understand these people who were admirable in striving to understand and to create their world. Looking back and understanding their efforts will help us to do the same in our world. We can't do that very well without help from them. It's never completed."



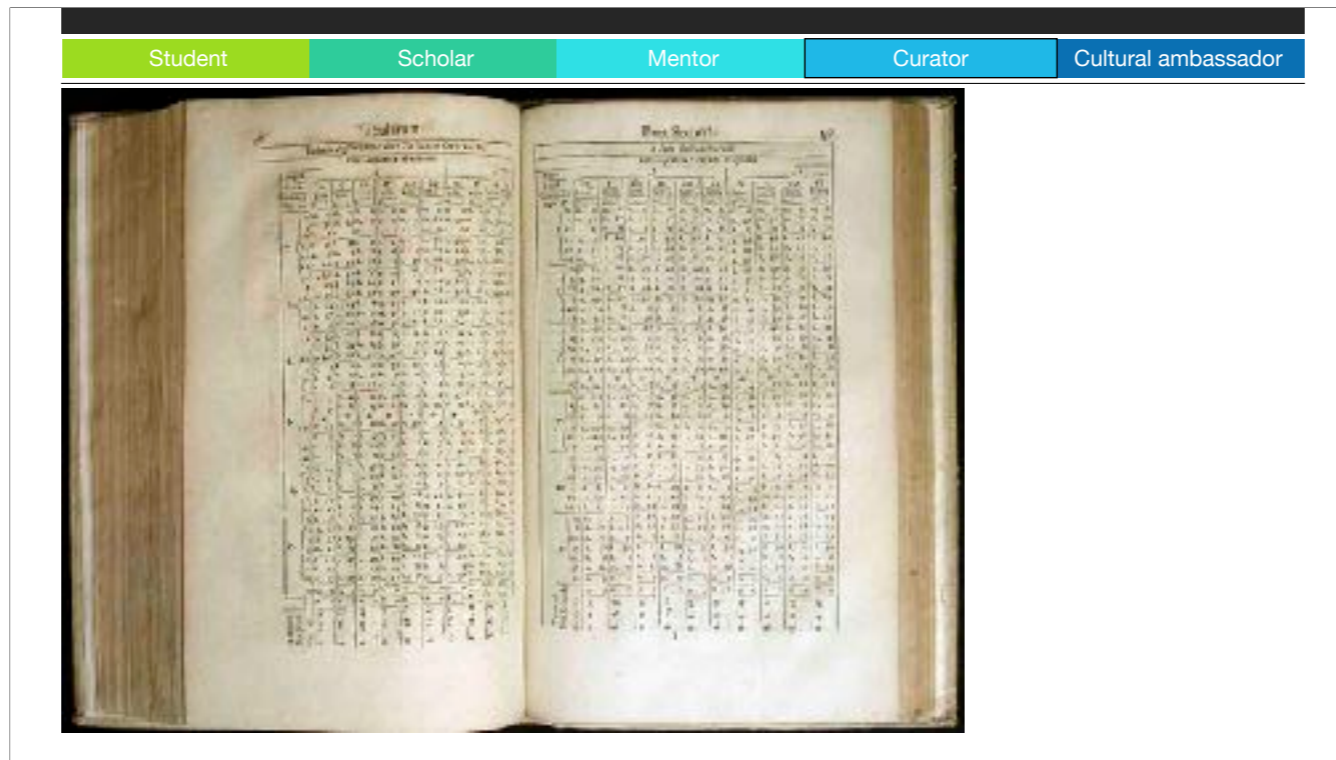
Maria Sybilla Merian,
Erucarum ortus
(Amsterdam, 1717)

Student	Scholar	Mentor	Curator	Cultural ambassador
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Maria Cunitz,
Urania Propitia (1650)

My final example is a handsome book that joins together astronomy and women in science.



Maria Cunitz was one of the few mathematical astronomers before Newton who believed Kepler was on the right track.

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Cultural ambassador



Marilyn acquired this work just before her retirement, when it was added to the Collections in her honor, in recognition of her distinguished efforts in building the Collections. All of the books I've just mentioned are currently on display in the East Hall.

PLATO, OPERA: FICINO (1491) AND ESTIENNE (1578) EDITIONS



It would require an exhibition larger than this entire floor to display the treasures Marilyn acquired. For example, Duane H.D. Roller was a lover of Plato through and through. It was only fitting, then, that Marilyn acquired the two most important early editions of Plato.

- Henri Estienne produced the first complete edition of all of Plato's works. Its pagination and line numbering remain the standard method for citing Plato.
- Marsilio Ficino founded the Florentine Platonic Academy. Ficino's essay on Platonic theology is included here. It was a central text of the Italian Renaissance. Chip, I'm sure Duane smiled down on Marilyn when she acquired these coveted editions.

PLATO, OPERA: FICINO (1491) AND ESTIENNE (1578) EDITIONS



Estienne (1578)

PLATO, OPERA: FICINO (1491) AND ESTIENNE (1578) EDITIONS



Estienne (1578)



Ficino (1491)

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Leonardo da Vinci,
Della Pittura
(Paris, 1651), 1st ed.
"On painting"

Or this Leonardo. Despite a lack of print publications, Leonardo's fame grew as word spread of his unpublished notebooks. The first book by Leonardo to be printed was this Treatise on Painting, published a century after his death. Here we have Leonardo's views on mathematical proportion and the human body, and the physiology of vision.

Student

Scholar

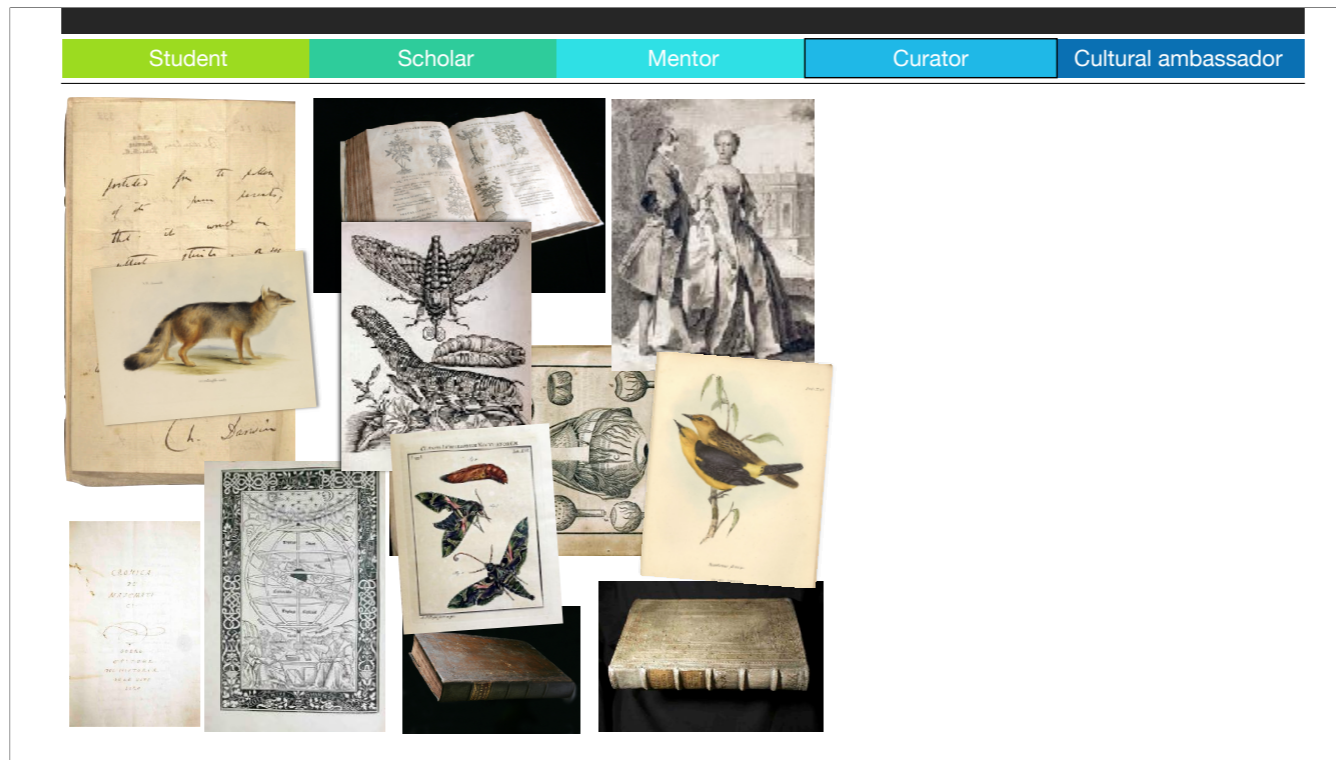
Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Leonardo da Vinci,
Della Pittura
(Paris, 1651), 1st ed.
"On painting"

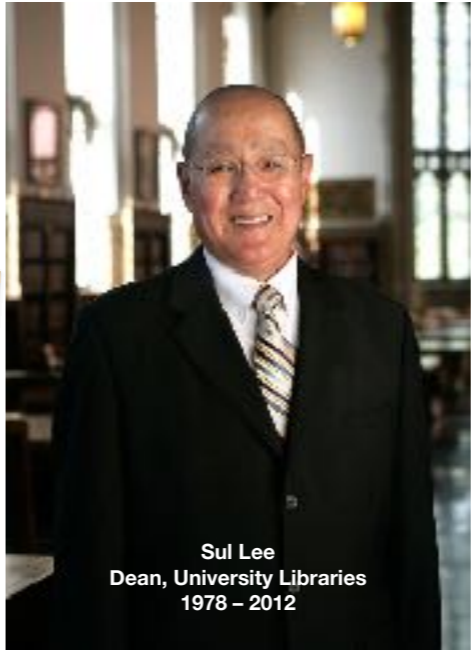


These few examples suffice to illustrate how Marilyn accomplished more than filling in gaps. Just as Duane Roller did more than inherit the DeGolyer Collection, so Marilyn deserves recognition as one of the builders of the Collections in her own right...

- with the constant support of Sul Lee, Dean of Libraries from 1978 to 2012. Even if considered by themselves, the 15,000 works acquired under Marilyn's tenure as Curator comprise a remarkable collection that would be the treasure of any institution.

[Marilyn contributed to established strengths in natural history and astronomy, but also devoted effort to collecting in emerging areas not adequately represented before, including women in science, medicine and alchemy, astrology, and science in popular culture.]


Student Scholar Mentor Curator Cultural ambassador



Sul Lee
Dean, University Libraries
1978 - 2012

Student Scholar Mentor Curator Cultural ambassador

Cultural Ambassador

The image features a navigation bar at the top with five colored tabs: 'Student' (green), 'Scholar' (teal), 'Mentor' (light blue), 'Curator' (blue), and 'Cultural ambassador' (dark blue). Below the navigation bar is a blue header with the text 'Cultural Ambassador' in white. Underneath the header are two side-by-side photographs of a woman with short blonde hair, identified as Marilyn. In the left photograph, she is standing at a wooden podium, speaking into a microphone and holding a small white object. In the right photograph, she is shown in profile, looking down at something on the podium. She is wearing a dark, patterned jacket.

Holding the books in the vault is one thing; bringing them to the public is another. As a cultural ambassador, Marilyn established the OU history of science program as an intellectual resource for Oklahoma, giving countless public talks,



hosting special events in the Collections,

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador

Cultural Ambassador



Using the books in teaching

Cultural Ambassador



and providing numerous class visits. Just as Buckland taught with fossils, so Marilyn taught with books.

[Oddly enough, I have no photo of Marilyn teaching a class, which she did on an almost daily basis!]



Roughly twenty years ago, Marilyn and Steven J. Livesey, the Department Chair at the time, expanded access to the Collections with a short-term Travel Fellowship Program. (Marilyn, Steve sends his regards, and regrets he could not be with us today, as he and Nina are in Cambridge.) To fund the fellowship, they secured an endowment from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This program, administered by the Department to this day, continues to bring national and international scholars to the University.

	Student	Scholar	Mentor	Curator	Cultural ambassador
	Name	Place of Origin	Fellowship	Topics	
1	Adam Mednick	New York	Mellon	Geology	
2	Francesco Luzzini	Italy	Mellon / Marie Curie	Geology	
3	Renee Clary	Mississippi	Mellon	Geology	
4	Tom Sharpe	Scotland	Mellon	Geology	
5	Kathryn Carpenter	New Jersey	Mellon / Taylor-Wei	Meteorology	
6	Matteo Cosci	Italy	Marie Curie	Astronomy	
7	Sam Schirvar	Pennsylvania	Consortium	Cold-War	
8	Kristine Harper	Copenhagen, Denmark	Mellon	Meteorology	
9	Henry-James Meiring	Queensland, Australia	Mellon	Darwin	
10	Jose Maria Moreno Madrid	Lisbon, Portugal	Mellon	Astronomy	
11	Nesrin Conker	Istanbul, Turkey	Mellon	Darwin	
12	Christopher Michael Blakley	Los Angeles, CA	Mellon	Scientific Expeditions	
13	Valentine Marie Delrue	Utrecht, Netherlands	Mellon / Taylor-Wei	Meteorology	

Just since 2020, for example, visiting researchers in the history of science have come from Scotland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, Portugal, Denmark and the Netherlands, as well as from across the United States.

- A special thank you to Alain Touwaide and Emanuela Appetiti, two Mellon fellows who are researching here this month. Alain presented a brilliant colloquium yesterday on their current research in early modern medicine. Bringing people here from around the world is just one more way the History of Science Collections serves as an intellectual and cultural resource for Oklahoma.

Student	Scholar	Mentor	Curator	Cultural ambassador
	Name	Place of Origin	Fellowship	Topics
1	Adam Mednick	New York	Mellon	Geology
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12	Christopher Michael Blakley	Los Angeles, CA	Mellon	Scientific Expeditions
13	Valentine Marie Delrue	Utrecht, Netherlands	Mellon / Taylor-Wei	Meteorology
14, 15	Alain Touwaide and Emanuela Appetiti	Washington, D.C.	Mellon	Medicine



To conclude, whether we think of time as a carousel

- Or a rushing river
- No one has been involved in the OU history of science program over as many years in as many roles as Marilyn: student, instructor, professor, scholar, mentor, curator, and after retirement a volunteer docent and continuing researcher. Over the last six decades, students, alumni, scientists and other cultural ambassadors across the state, and scholars around the world, all recognize Marilyn as the face of OU history of science. In short, Marilyn is our greatest treasure, the undaunted spirit of the OU history of science program. Marilyn, I speak for everyone at OU when I say that you have changed us forever, you have profoundly shaped who we are, and we love you!

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Thank you, Marilyn!

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Thank you, Marilyn!

Student

Scholar

Mentor

Curator

Cultural ambassador



Thank you, Marilyn!

Thank you, Marilyn.