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Friends of the Library Newsletter Spring 2015

Michael J. Paulus Jr.

Seattle Pacific University, paulusm@spu.edu

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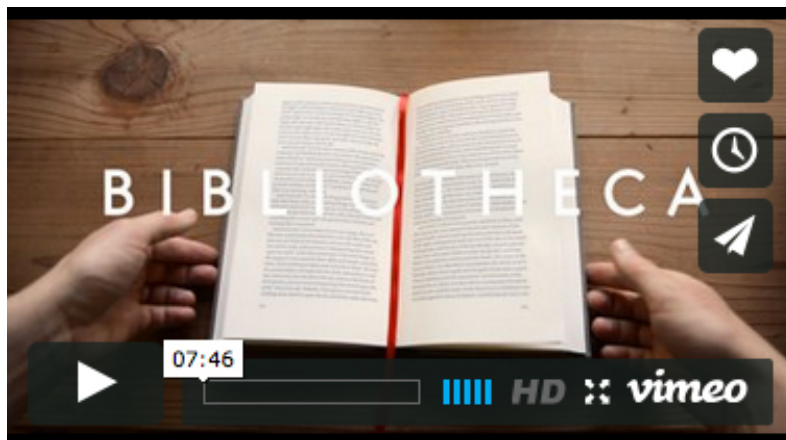
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Annual Friends of the Library Lecture: “Re-Designing the Bible for Reading, and How Kickstarter Made It Possible”

In mid-2014, book designer Adam Lewis Greene launched a Kickstarter campaign to fund his first independent book publishing endeavor, *Bibliotheca*. According to Adam, *Bibliotheca* aims to free biblical literature — a cornerstone of Western culture and storytelling — from the dense, encyclopedic typographic conventions to which it has been almost exclusively relegated for centuries, and to give it fresh expression as a multivolume set of elegant, traditionally designed books conducive to enjoyable reading. The fundraising goal was quickly surpassed 40 times over, totaling over \$1.4 million and making *Bibliotheca* one of the top 50 Kickstarter campaigns to date out of over 197,000.



On Exhibit



A Geneva Bible, printed in 1589, on display in the Ames Library as part of a

rare book exhibition, “Bibles and Bible Commentary,” curated by Theology Librarian Steve Perisho. To read more about this and other books on display, explore the exhibition [online](#).

Connect

Become a Friend of the Library by contributing to an endowment that enhances both the quantity and the quality of the resources available to students and scholars at SPU. If you are not already a member, or have not yet renewed your annual membership, please visit the [Friends of the Library giving site](#).

Attend [Creative Conversations](#), the Library’s speaker series, in which members of the SPU

Being more or less a student of the age-old disciplines of type design, typography, book design, book illustration, calligraphy, and print, Adam is fascinated with the dissemination of ideas via the book and the letter, as well as the history and future of writing and print. Confronted with an increasing tendency in design culture toward the superficial away from the substantive, he is interested in finding and creating artifacts that possess intrinsic beauty and goodness, and he thinks a well-made book is just about the best example of this. In this lecture — which is free and open to the public — Adam will talk about his vision for *Bibliotheca* and how he is implementing it. More information about the project is available from [Bibliotheca](#).

Who: Adam Lewis Greene

What: "Re-Designing the Bible for Reading, and How Kickstarter Made It Possible"

When: Thursday, April 23, 7:30–9 p.m.

Where: Upper Gwinn Commons

Teaching and Innovation

Teaching is a principal role of the SPU Library and the focus of one of our guiding principles: We are committed to developing and supporting “information-literate learners who can discover, access, and use information effectively for academic success, research, and lifelong learning.” (See the [most recent Annual Report](#) for details of how the Library fulfills this and other goals.) For decades, the Library’s instruction program has evolved and matured, becoming increasingly integrated within SPU’s undergraduate and graduate curricula and increasingly sophisticated in the ways in which we help students learn how to discover, create, and share knowledge.

As institutions of higher education explore new pedagogical and technological possibilities for teaching and learning, faculty are experimenting with a number of innovative approaches. Librarians at SPU and elsewhere have an established history of experimenting with innovative approaches, including using active learning methodologies, and of supplementing face-to-face

community share scholarly and creative works in progress. The series runs during the school year and is open to the public.

Explore the Library’s website, and the resources and services available through it, by visiting spu.edu/library.

Follow the Library’s [blog](#), [Twitter](#), and [Tumblr](#) accounts.



instruction with online educational resources. With support from a Provost Academic Initiative Grant, this year SPU librarians are creating new types of online guides and tutorials that will support teaching, learning, and academic support beyond a specific class.

These new online resources include [guides to reading](#) and [copyright](#), pages for the [Board of Student Media](#) and the Library's [Work and Faith Collection](#), and (still in development) vocational resources and supplemental materials for *A Compact Guide to the Whole Bible*, a textbook written by School of Theology faculty. Kimberly Tate, a librarian hired to help with this project, points out that these resources support curricular as well as co-curricular learning, showing that “the critical thinking skills and intellectual curiosity SPU strives to instill in its students relate not only to academia, but also to personally relevant topics like reading for leisure and using information ethically.”



The Digital Dimension of the Library

Last year, about as many people entered the Ames Library building as visited the Library's website. The over 250,000 students, faculty, and others who entered our physical space used printed materials and technology, met with librarians and technology consultants, and worked individually or collaboratively at a table or in a study room. Those who visited us online conducted over a million searches, read and/or downloaded some 200,000 e-books and articles, and connected with online resources and assistance.

Every aspect of the SPU Library includes a digital dimension and strategy. Within the past few years, we have expanded access to e-books, implemented a comprehensive [discovery system](#) for local and [consortial](#) resources (in any format) as well as a specialized discovery system for our [archives](#), launched a [digital repository](#) for digitized and born-digital materials associated with SPU, and implemented a new [system](#) for subject guides and tutorials.

At the same time, we have strengthened and broadened our instruction program, increased the hours of and improved facilities in the Ames Library, established new service areas, and created exhibitions and events to increase engagement with library resources and services. In the early 21st century, a library dynamically integrates physical and digital resources and services, helping its users move between complementary offline and online spheres of exploration and engagement.

