



Updates on Ongoing Projects Funded by the Friends

As of July 25, 2025

Audio/Visual/Film (AVF) Inventory Student Worker Project – see AVF Final Report

HSI Initiatives – Higher Education Center, McAllen TX – COMPLETED FEB 2025

Friends Preservation Assistance Fund

Total Remaining: \$42,624

The collection from the Texas A&M Center for Heritage Conservation (CHC)* arrived at the Libraries in June. The CHC collection documents conservation work on Texas buildings from the 1970s through the 1990s. The items have been quarantined, treated, and rehoused in their entirety. The Preservation Unit has also begun digitizing the collection. Libraries student workers working on this project are funded by the Friends Preservation Assistance Fund.

*Part of the College of Architecture

Friends Paver Program

A donor reached out with an inquiry about where their paver was located. The Libraries does not have a way of keeping track of which pavers are purchased by specific donors. We only keep a diagram of the area.



Audio Visual/Film Inventory Student Assistant Project Final Report

BACKGROUND AND FUNDING SOURCE

In October 2024, the Texas A&M University Libraries submitted a proposal requesting support from the Friends of the Libraries to inventory and assess approximately 7,000 audio, video, and film objects held in the University Archives. The primary goal was to create an item-level inventory with condition notes to lay the groundwork for future digitization and long-term preservation.

Thanks to Friends funding and additional internal support, the project was successfully completed during the 2024–2025 academic year. A total of \$21,000 was budgeted (\$20,000 for student wages and \$1,000 for supplies and equipment).

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- **6,274 films** were assessed, inventoried, and described.
- Media types included primarily **athletic films** (football, basketball, track), as well as campus events, agriculture research, and NASA-related materials.
- Films date from the **1930s to early 1990s**, with the bulk from the **1970s–1980s**.
- All films were reviewed for location accuracy and condition. While many are stable, a portion are in critical need of preservation.
- Work by 8 student assistants has now concluded.

BUDGET RECAP:

- Student Wages Budget: \$20,000
 - Spent: \$17,862.39
 - Remaining: \$2,137.61
- Supplies & Equipment Budget: \$1,000
 - Spent: \$765.98
 - Remaining: \$234.02
- **Total Remaining: \$2,371.63**



PROPOSAL REQUEST – DIGITIZATION PHASE 1:

With the completion of the inventory phase, we now propose using the remaining \$2,371.63 to begin digitizing a curated selection of film reels, with a focus on:

- Films identified as most at-risk during assessment
- Items of high historical or research value (e.g., rare campus events or early athletic footage)

This small-scale digitization pilot will allow us to:

- Test vendor workflows and costs
- Establish access and preservation protocols
- Begin making these materials discoverable for public and research use

This use of funds aligns directly with the original project's long-term goal of securing and enabling preservation and access and will support Texas A&M University's Sesquicentennial Anniversary Celebration.

We will share digitized content highlights and outcomes in a future update and continue seeking external support for additional digitization work.



PACE Grant Progress Report Texas A&M University Sesquicentennial Digital Projects

Funding Source: \$12,000 (2025 funds - \$7,260; 2026 funds - \$4,620)

Timeframe: January 2025 to August 2026

As part of Texas A&M University's 150th Anniversary celebrations, a PACE Grant was awarded to support a student dedicated to conducting archival research that highlights the university's rich history and heritage. Working in close collaboration with Cushing Library staff and the Sesquicentennial History and Heritage Subcommittee, the student is actively identifying, analyzing, and organizing key documents, photographs, and other primary sources that showcase Texas A&M's enduring legacy. To date, the student's work has focused on developing a suite of digital projects that explore the university's historical milestones, global impact, and evolving campus landscape. Key components of this initiative include:

- **Interactive Map of Historic Campus**
A geolocated digital map is in development to showcase historic buildings and significant campus landmarks. This tool will enable users to explore Texas A&M's architectural history and spatial growth, with each location linked to archival photographs and historical context.
- **Global and Statewide Footprint Visualization**
This digital feature maps the university's statewide and international presence, including research facilities, extension offices, and global partnerships. It visualizes the breadth of Texas A&M's influence beyond the College Station campus.
- **Aerial Imagery Timeline**
An interactive timeline of aerial photographs will illustrate the university's physical development from its founding to the present. Users will be able to track the transformation of the campus across decades through historical aerial imagery.
- **"Then & Now" Image Transitions**
This dynamic feature pairs historical and contemporary images of campus locations, emphasizing changes in the built environment. These visual comparisons encourage users to reflect on the continuity and evolution of the university over time.

These digital storytelling tools will be integrated into a larger sesquicentennial platform that complements other archival and educational efforts. The student assistant plays a critical role in identifying, curating, and preparing historical materials for digital presentation.

To date, the interactive campus map has been the primary focus of the student's work. In addition to contributing to digital initiatives, the student is also involved in the conceptual design of a physical exhibition to be installed at Cushing Memorial Library and Archives in Fall 2026. They are also assisting with the development of a chronological timeline by populating a detailed content spreadsheet that will support that feature.

PACE Grant Budget

Semester	Weeks	Hours per Week	Rate per Hour	Total per Semester
Spring 2025	16	15	\$11	\$2,640
Summer 2025	12	15	\$11	\$1,980



**Report of Endowments
Held at the A&M Foundation**

As of May 31, 2025

**Edward & Billie Madeley – Friends of the Sterling C. Evans Library Excellence Endowment–
Account #57534**

Use: Support the Libraries as determined by the head of the University Libraries in consultation with the President of the Friends.

Endowment: \$150,100

Investment Income earned annually: ~ \$9,500

Income available: \$53,456

Friends of the Sterling C. Evans Library Endowment (Abbott) – Account #57477

Use: Supports programs and projects of the Libraries which may include capital needs and travel expenses for staff of the Libraries. All expenditures from this Fund must be approved by the chief academic/administrative officer of the Libraries, (presently the University Librarian and Asst. Provost). All reports will be provided to the Friends through the University Librarian.

Endowment: \$61,267

Investment Income earned annually: ~\$3,279

Income available: \$45,775*

*Donations given to the income (05) side of Abbott from 2/1/2023 – 4/30/2026 may count towards the Friends Sesquicentennial Fund. The total amount reserved for this fund is **\$8,550**. This amount is already included in the “Income Available” above.