

TOP 10 REASONS TO PRESERVE THE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS



10. Preserving the libraries' collections is cost-effective. With the average cost for the GMU libraries to purchase, catalog, and process a book currently at \$87.00, prolonging the usefulness and value of library items is vital.
9. Every institution preserves its most valuable collections. The Libraries' collections of over one million volumes are probably one of the University's most valuable holdings – with a worth of over \$100,000,000.00!
8. Preservation enables the library to buy more new materials by cutting replacement costs of old materials.
7. By preserving the unique and original materials in the library's Special Collections, we are guaranteeing the safekeeping and continuation of our cultural heritage.
6. Preservation promotes green culture by allowing each item to be used and to remain in circulation for as long as it's needed – thus extending its life and eliminating the need for replacement.
5. Preserving current and future library collections increases the visibility of the University and helps attract quality students, faculty and staff.
4. When books go out of print quickly and replacement is difficult or impossible, the preservation of library collections increases the depth of the collection and improves access to a vast array of subjects.
3. Preserving library collections protects and chronicles the past, communicates the present, and helps shape the future.
2. Preserving print collections is important – especially in the digital age! Materials that are not online will eventually deteriorate without preventative measures; moreover digitization does not preserve the artifact value of original items.
1. Preserving library collections promotes democracy! Well-kept collections are available to all current and future users at no cost – keeping people informed and leveling the knowledge-resources playing field for all.