



PAYNE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Intralibrary Project Propels Seminary's Archives Into Cyberspace

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 20, 2015

WILBERFORCE, OHIO — The history of Payne Theological Seminary is now at your fingertips, thanks to the internet and an intralibrary relationship between Payne and Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey.

Thanks to the Princeton Theological Commons paradigm – anyone, anywhere, can retrieve digital archives about Payne and the AME Church by simply logging onto the Princeton Library Portal. The joint venture between the two seminaries' officially launched on Wednesday, May 20. Current information includes materials related to the A.M.E. denomination and a selection of Payne archive materials that showcases the breadth-and-depth of our holdings, said Shanee' Murrain, Payne archivist.

Web-surfers will find 47 items in four unique contextualized categories to download. Examples range from blueprints and handwritten manuscripts to fragile books, bulletins and, photos that date back to the 1800's— just to name a few.

“So much of what I do here is about preserving history and making it accessible,” Murrain said.

She added, “The documents on Princeton's Library Portal will enrich our student experience, and make the Payne Theological Seminary's history accessible to all.”

To access historical documents from Payne Theological Seminary visit Princeton's Theological Commons on the World Wide Web at <http://diglib.ptsem.edu/>

About Payne Theological Seminary: Payne Theological Seminary, founded by the African Methodist Episcopal Church (1894), is dedicated to the preparation of African American and other leaders for ministry in the tradition of liberation, reconciliation, social justice, and the dignity of all humankind. Located in Wilberforce, Ohio, Payne is one of the oldest Black seminaries primarily concerned with the training of men and women for the ministry. Payne is proud to be the first Black Seminary in the United States with an on-line Master of Divinity Program.

For more information, contact Sonya Thomas, Public Relations Manager at (937) 376-2946, ext. 147 or sthomas@payne.edu.

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PAYNE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Library at awarded an OHRAB grant

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 2015

WILBERFORCE, OHIO — Payne Theology Seminary has been awarded a \$1,960 grant from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB). Eleven Ohio institutions were awarded partial or full funding to support archival historic -preservation projects. The grant-dollar awards ranged from \$534 to \$2000.

Payne's archivist, Shaneé Murrain said the seminary will use the grant to purchase archival management software to accurately count the items in the archive and prepare materials for scanning with its online library initiative with New Jersey-based Princeton Theological Seminary. She will also receive training on how to use the software and preserve two special manuscript collections in the archive. The result of the joint, intralibrary venture will allow Payne, a smaller seminary to bring its digital archive collection to a broader audience by utilizing Princeton's larger, more complex digital library.

The user-friendly, web-based library is expected to launch later this month. So soon – anyone, anywhere, will be able to retrieve digital archives about Payne and the A.M.E church by simply visiting the Princeton Theological Commons. Users will be able to view materials related to the A.M.E. denomination and a selection of Payne archive materials that showcase the breadth and depth of our holdings, Murrain said. Examples will include blueprints, handwritten manuscripts, fragile books, bulletins, and photos that date back to the 1800's.

“So much of what I do here is about preserving history and making it accessible,” Murrain added. “The documents on Princeton's Theological Commons will enrich our student experience, and make the Payne Theological Seminary history accessible to all.”

To access historical documents from Payne Theological Seminary visit the Princeton Theological Seminary Theological Commons on the World Wide Web at <http://diglib.ptsem.edu/>

OHRAB's regrant funding program is supported by funds obtained from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). Through OHRAB's regrant application process, funding is provided to institutions and local groups to assist in the preservation of archives and historic collections.

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Shanéé Yvette Murrain, Seminary Archivist Recent Awards and Appointments

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 20, 2015

WILBERFORCE, OHIO— Shanée Yvette Murrain, Seminary Archivist, has been recognized for outstanding accomplishment at Payne Theological Seminary.

- *American Theological Library Association*, Special Collections and Archives Interest Group, Co-Chair 2017-2018;
- *Society of Ohio Archivists*, Advocacy and Outreach Committee, Co-Chair 2015-2016
- *Academic Library Association of Ohio*, Special Collections and Archives Interest Group, Co-Chair 2015-2017;
- *Girls on the Run*, Program Coordinator-Dayton, Ohio Council 2015-present;
- Admitted to California Rare Book School *Developing & Administering African-American Resources* course on the UCLA campus in the Westwood neighborhood of Los Angeles, August 3-7, 2015; and
- Award one of four: 2015 ARL (Association of Research Libraries) + DLF (Digital Library Federation) Forum Underrepresented Groups Fellow, travel grant to attend Digital Library Forum conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, October 26-28, 2015.

Since joining Payne Theological Seminary, Ms. Murrain has been recognized by the *American Theological Library Association* as Member of the Week, 4/20/2015. She also has been invited to host the bi-annual meeting of the *Ohio Theological Library Association* for which she helped secure a keynote speaker to discuss digital preservation and archives, and secured partnerships with a host of local and national digital archive projects. On April 2, 2015, The *Society of Ohio Archivists* (SOA) announced the names of scholarship recipients for the “2015 SOA Merit Awards, New Professional Scholarships, and Student Scholarships to the SOA Annual Meeting Competition”. Seminary Archivist, Shanée Yvette Murrain was awarded the new archival professionals award. The scholarship for archival professionals with three years or less experience in the workplace will provide funding to attend the associations’ annual spring meeting on Friday, May 15, 2015 at the OCLC Conference Center in Dublin, Ohio. The scholarship consists of conference registration (including lunch), a one year membership to SOA, and a \$100 travel stipend. Awardees are required to write about their experience for publication in the Ohio Archivist newsletter. On March 13, 2015, the Archives at Payne Theological Seminary was notified that the Arrangement and Description of the Payne African Methodist Episcopal Church Archive proposal submitted to the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) was one of 20 applications fully funded. The project will focus on processing two special collections: the Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom and George A. Singleton Collection. Grant monies will go towards the purchase of Proficio Elements archival management software and preservation measures to facilitate future use by researchers without further damage.

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